FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 MARCH 1986

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force "completely destroyed" a large Iranian power station northeast of Ahvaz in a "surprise and devastating" raid 22 March, the Iraqi command claimed in a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Iraqi planes also raided Khark Island and hit a "large maritime target" in the Gulf the following day, according to military statements carried by the radio. Meanwhile, tugs towed a blazing supertanker away from Khark Island after the vessel was set on fire in an Iraqi air raid 20 march, the *GULF DAILY NEWS* noted.

Iranian planes bombed Iraqi targets in the Al-'Amarah and Basra areas 22 march, according to IRNA, which cited an Iranian denial of Iraqi claims that two Iranian jets were downed over the southern front that day.

In ground battles, Iraqi communiques carried by Voice of the Masses claimed successes in the mountainous Panjwin area, asserting that the Iraqis defeated Iranian attempts to recapture a number of peaks recently seized by Iraqi troops.

In political developments, Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz criticized a UN Security Council statement condemning Iraq for using chemical weapons against Iran as lacking "the required balance," charging that the Council's statement "ignores in an intolerable manner the Iranian invasion of Iraqi territory and the Iranian forces' repeated offensives" against Iraq. In a memorandum to the UN secretary general that was broadcast by Voice of the Masses, 'Aziz warned against "unjustified" and "dishonest" attempts to "focus on sub-issues stemming from the conflict" and he announced that while Iraq "has shown complete readiness" to cooperate with the Security Council, it "will not accept any efforts not dealing clearly with ending the war." In its reaction to the Security Council statement, the Iranian Foreign Ministry criticized the Council's failure to condemn Iraq sooner, charging that Iraq began using chemical weapons "nearly 3 years ago." The ministry statement broadcast by Tehran radio also called on the Security Council to go beyond a condemnation of Iraq and "take steps, using all resources, to punish the aggressor."

OPEC Affairs

OPEC ministers continued their week-long deliberations in Geneva 23 March on ways to bolster oil prices and achieve market "stability," OPECNA reported. In earlier reports, AFP cited the Iranian oil minister as saying that Iran would flood the market with oil if the meeting breaks up without an agreement on production, while the Libyan oil minister affirmed that the meeting would continue until an agreement is reached. The Kuwaiti oil minister also told AFP that the delegations were encountering difficulties in allotting individual countries' quotas within the production ceiling. In a related development, Libya and Saudi Arabia agreed to coordinate their efforts to "ensure a quick return to earlier oil prices," JANA reported, citing a 23 March telephone conversation between Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and King Fahd.

Libya

JANA ended the Libyan media silence over the latest U.S. maneuvers in the Gulf of Sidra by citing a 24 March Beirut press editorial denouncing the exercises as part of a U.S. plan to impose Washington's will on the Arab world. Meanwhile, the Libyan Armed Forces commander in chief attended live ammunition exercises by Libyan military units, Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio reported.

As for diplomatic contacts, a 24 March JANA report on a meeting between Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud and the Soviet ambassador noted that their talks focused on "the current international situation." In another development, Col al-Qadhdhafi received Algerian Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi 23 march, JANA noted. Commenting on his visit to Libya in remarks reported by Algiers radio, Brahimi disclosed that Libya and Algeria have agreed to double the volume of trade exchange and he also stated that Algeria has agreed to supply Libya with natural gas.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak received visiting Soviet delegation leader Pavel Gilashvili 24 March, MENA reported. Gilashvili, the deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, stated earlier that there will soon be an exchange of visits by senior officials of both countries, according to MENA.

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat also visited Cairo over the weekend, stating after a 23 March meeting with Mubarak that the current "dead end" in Mideast peace talks is due to U.S. "obstinacy," MENA reported. As for Egyptian-Israeli relations, Jerusalem radio disclosed that Israel will protest to Egypt over the content of an "inflammatory" anti-Israeli article in the Cairo paper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*. Meanwhile, Egyptian papers cited by MENA stated that Egyptian police have detained a large number of suspects in connection with the 19 March attack on four Israelis in Cairo. Nevertheless, sources close to the investigation revealed that the police have no firm leads in their hunt for the perpetrators, AFP reported.

Israel

Security forces have arrested a number of Fatah terrorist squads in Jerusalem and the West Bank, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement reported by Jerusalem radio 23 March. The gangs are believed to be responsible for a number of bomb attacks in Israel during 1985-86.

Sudan-Ethiopia

Ethiopia is "directly involved" in military operations in southern Sudan, conducting reconnaissance flights and providing logistical support for the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA), Sudanese Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah said in an *AL SAHAFAH* interview reported by SUNA. Calling the Ethiopian support for the SPLA "a flagrant and deliberate violation," 'Abdallah warned that foreign interference in southern Sudan "will lead the entire region to a disaster."

In earlier developments, Sudan's National Alliance for National Salvation and the SPLA continued their meetings in Koka, Ethiopia 22 March, Addis Ababa radio reported. In a speech at the 21 March session that was broadcast by the clandestine SPLA radio, SPLA Commander in Chief John Garang wished the participants success, calling on them to reject "sectarianism" and work toward building "a new Sudan." But Garang also accused the Transitional Military Council (TMC) of adopting a series of resolutions aimed against the SPLA and he announced that under present conditions a cease-fire between the TMC and SPLA is "out of the question." Garang called the TMC's plans to hold national elections "ridiculous," maintaining that unless his group is involved in the preparations for elections it will not be bound by their "constitutionality."

In his speech at the 22 March session, National Alliance Chairman Khalid Yaji was optimistic that the meeting would result in a "definite determination to put an end to this bloodshed" between Sudanese factions, and he appealed to the SPLA to consider the meeting as a "unique opportunity" for the sides to achieve national unity.

DRA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs condemned President Reagan's "Afghanistan Day" message, claiming it was full of "fabrications, falsehoods, and the lunatic hostility" of the U.S. Administration against the DRA Government and people. The ministry statement broadcast by Kabul radio also accused the U.S. Administration of beginning a "qualitatively new phase in its anti-Afghan policy."

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Abu Nidal Said Ready To Join Palestinian Group

NC231432 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1420 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], head of Fatah's Revolutionary Council, is preparing to give up the clandestine activities he has been carrying out for the last 12 years. Abu Nidal, who is responsible for several terrorist operations, has decided to join the Palestinian Salvation Front, an organization supported by Syria and opposed to 'Arafat.

Khalaf on PLO Willingness to Aid Gulf Against Iran

GF240550 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 24 Mar 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] The PLO is willing to help defend Iraq or any other Arab Gulf country threatened militarily by Iran, says a top official.

Salah Khalaf, Yasir 'Arafat's right hand man, told a press conference in Bahrain, the PLO was seeking pan-Arab solidarity as a substitute to the movement's joint efforts with Jordan for a Mideast solution.

Khalaf, known as Abu Iyad, defied King Husayn of Jordan to unilaterally abrogate the Jordanian-Palestinian Amman accord for joint Mideast peace action.

The king in February declared the joint effort suspended and Khalaf complained the move has "confused the situation, turning it into a confrontation between Jordan and the PLO instead of what it should be:

"A collision between the PLO and Jordan on the one side and the U.S. and Israel on the other."

Khalaf deplored the February 8 invasion of the Iraq's Faw peninsula and the repeated threats to Kuwait and other Gulf Arab powers by Iran.

"We Palestinians share the prosperity of these Arab countries and we are determined to share their sorrow too...we will help defend these countries against any external intervention."

He stressed that no Palestinians were fighting alongside Iraq against Iran, expressing hopes the conflict would end soon.

"We were against Iraq when its forces entered Iranian territory and now we are against the presence of Iranian troops on Iraqi soil," he said.

Khalaf denounced the United States for insisting that the PLO accept the UN Security Council Resolution 242 because, he complained, "it does not recognize the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination."

He admitted the Jordan-PLO peace bid has "reached a dead-end, and the only alternative now is to attain pan-Arab solidarity."

"We want Egypt back in the Arab fold...we want a unified Arab stance in the face of not merely the Israeli menace but intra-Arab bickering as well," Khalaf said.

"Arab solidarity would help end the Iran-Iraq war, help Sudan avert the threat of being divided, defuse the Lebanese crisis, face the American threats to Libya...Arab solidarity would be a panacea."

The Egyptian Government has asked the PLO to accept Resolution 242.

But Khalaf commended Cairo for demanding the Palestinians be accorded the right to exercise self-determination in an independent state of their own on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

New Dissident Palestinian Movement Expected

GF211416 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 20 Mar 86 p 1, 14

["Exclusive" report]

[Text] *AL-BAYAN* has learned that the Palestinian leadership is expecting the emergence of a dissident Palestinian movement in the Jordanian arena led by the former chairman of Fatah military intelligence 'Atallah 'Attallah, alias Abu al-Za'im.

Prominent leading Palestinian sources have said that Abu al-Za'im — who is trying to attract a great number of Fatah cadres in Jordan and others who have left Syria to join his new dissident movement — has so far succeeded in mobilizing a small group of uninfluential elements.

The sources revealed that Abu al-Za'im recently delivered a speech to Fatah cadres in Al-Karamah camp in Jordan in which he attacked the senior leaders of the Palestinian revolution, especially Yasir 'Arafat, Salah Khalaf, and Faruq Qaddumi. He has refused a number of requests to return to Tunis.

It is expected that a decision will be taken shortly to bring Abu al-Za'im before a Palestinian investigation panel, a matter which will accelerate the announcement of this new dissident movement.

Some Palestinian sources explained the stance of Abu al-Za'im, who was once known to be devoted to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, saying that he had sought a prominent role in the Palestinian arena in Jordan or Egypt but 'Arafat — who knows the extent of the sensitivity of his colleagues toward the stances of Abu al-Za'im — stood in his way.

Meanwhile, the leading Palestinian sources said that there is no chance at present for a meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and Jordanian monarch King Husayn.

The leading Palestinian sources added that in view of the current political atmosphere no serious move to conduct peace negotiations is possible. The sources pointed out that the future of a political move appears to be heading toward the dark side and that any change in the situation will be related to current regional moves, such as the possibility of a new escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, the results of the expected summit between President Hafiz al-Asad and King Husayn, the Palestinian issue, and the results of possible fighting in Lebanon between the Amal movement and the Hizballah.

The sources stated that beliefs currently are concentrated on finding a place for a Palestinian political role in the region which would be an effective power for the Palestinian revolution in Lebanon, free of the influence of regional powers.

'Arafat on Syria, Husayn, Iran-Iraq War

GF221029 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0910 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Mar (WAKH) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, has described his talks with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan as constructive and lucrative. He said they discussed various developments in the Arab and international scene, foremost being the efforts being made to end the Iraq-Iran war.

In an interview published today in the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD*, 'Arafat said he sensed a response and cooperation from Shaykh Zayid on all issues discussed, particularly regarding the conditions of the Palestinians in the UAE. He reiterated his thanks to Shaykh Zayid for resuming financial aid to the PLO.

The Palestinian leader expressed satisfaction over the support given to the PLO by the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories. The PLO will never change its policy aimed at establishing just peace on the land of Palestine. It will continue to struggle for this goal, he said. 'Arafat discussed various issues; the most important was the PLO's relations with Jordan. The PLO has calmly responded to King Husayn's speech, which announced a halt in coordination with the PLO leadership. The PLO will continue to make efforts in order to consolidate cooperation between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples, he said.

Concerning Syrian-Palestinian relations, 'Arafat reiterated that the PLO has opened a dialogue with Syria and has stopped its media campaigns and said that it does not want to indulge in details and prefers to leave this to brothers in the Syrian leadership. He defended the PLO's policy on the current efforts to achieve Palestinian unity: The PLO proceeds in accordance with PNC resolutions and their invariables. The PLO welcomes any efforts to bring back Palestinian factions to the PLO, he said.

Discussing the Iraq-Iran war, 'Arafat expressed regret that the Iranian leadership has not responded to the Islamic Good Office Committee's efforts at a time when Iraq has repeatedly welcomed these efforts. He affirmed that the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war greatly harms the Palestinian issue and the potential of the two Muslim countries and that the PLO sincerely wants this tragic war to stop.

PLO Radio Reports on PLO-SFRY Joint Communique

JN211820 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The PLO and SFRY stressed the need to establish peace in the Middle East, the Zionist forces' withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state after recognition of the Palestinian people's inalienable, historic rights. In a joint communique issued in Tunis and Belgrade at the conclusion of brother leader Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] visit to the SFRY the day before yesterday, the two sides stressed the need to involve the PLO in any international effort aimed at resolving the Palestine question in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative.

'Arafat on SFRY, Romania Visit, Soviet Relations

GF231522 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 22 Mar 86 p 9

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, by *AL-ITTIHAD* correspondent Hamid Zaydan — date and place not given]

[Excerpt] [Hamid Zaydan] What about your recent visit to Yugoslavia? Is there any Yugoslav initiative?
[Yasir 'Arafat] This is not correct. During my visit I discussed with the Yugoslav leaders important and basic issues, foremost of which is the Palestinian issue. Yugoslavia adopts a principled and committed stand toward the Palestinian issue, the rights of the Palestinian people, the Palestinian struggle, and the PLO.

[Zaydan] What about your visit to Romania made before your visit to Yugoslavia?
['Arafat] The visit came in response to prior invitations.

[Zaydan] Does Romania have any initiatives for peace in the region, or any indirect contacts, or anything else in this regard?
['Arafat] There is no doubt that during my contacts with those friends I sensed their increasing efforts to continue their attempts on all levels to accelerate the Palestinian issue.

[Zaydan] What about your visit to Moscow? Has it been decided? Is it still proposed?
['Arafat] It was not included on my agenda, but a Palestinian delegation visited Moscow to attend the 27th CPSU Congress as the newspapers said. The visit is not proposed now.

[Zaydan] Is it true that the Soviets said that if Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] comes, Moscow will receive him?
['Arafat] Of course. Therefore, I say that relationship between us and our Soviet friends is strong. We are proud of this relationship. However, the Arab information media are not correct in their reports about my expected visit.

[Zaydan] Does this question have any connection with the Soviet Union's position toward Palestinian unity?
['Arafat] Undoubtedly. A Palestinian delegation visited Moscow before the convening of the 27th CPSU congress. During that visit, Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi] met with Soviet

Foreign Minister Shevardnadze and discussed with him a number of common issues, including the situation in our Palestinian arena. Our Soviet friends stressed the need for the return of the dissident Palestinian factions to the PLO and supported the return of the brothers so that they can assume their work inside the PLO. Our delegation told our Soviet friends that it welcomes any Soviet efforts in this direction.

'Arafat Interviewed on Palestinian Situation

GF210819 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0650 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Interview with Yasir 'Arafat, alias Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, by an unidentified Abu Dhabi radio announcer — recorded]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Brother Abu 'Ammar, concerning your recent statement to the newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* on the Palestinian-Syrian meeting, this statement implies that efforts for Palestinian-Syrian reconciliation have made progress. Would you provide further details on this?

[Yasir 'Arafat] In fact, I want always to put the masses in a clear view. There are Palestinian-Syrian contacts. We hope that these contacts will succeed. Let us follow the proverb which says: "Do your affairs privately." We do not want to make propaganda for this. We want to achieve results. So let us wait for a while and hope that these efforts will succeed.

[Announcer] Abu 'Ammar, you have claimed in a press statement that you are ready to immediately resume coordination with His Majesty King Husayn. We also know that efforts are being made to achieve reconciliation between the PLO and the Jordanian Government following King Husayn's speech announcing a halt to political coordination with the PLO. The question is, what is the future of the joint move with Jordan in light of the current Arab and international situation, particularly if the United States insists on its known stand toward the PLO?

['Arafat] As for the United States, it will continue to insist on its stand. This stand is based on the arrogance of power [last three words in English]. Not only does the United States continue to follow its political and media stand, what is more serious is that U.S. President Reagan has embroiled himself in the Arab-Israeli conflict. This has been manifested in the strategic agreement between him and the Israeli enemy and participation in the raid against the PLO headquarters in Tunis. In 1 month, this involvement was mainfested in the use of veto by the United States three times against the Arab nation to protect Israel's Judaization policy against the holy places and attempts to demolish the Al-Aqsa mosque to establish the Solomon temple in its place. Nothing is more serious than this embroilment. I say to all Americans that Reagan is making the same mistake which President Johnson made when he was involved in the Vietnam war. I want to address the U.S. arrogance of power [last three words in English] that we will not be the losers in this (?land). Let them know that the flood and volcano which I talked about as I left Beirut still continue in the region and that other interests, not only Arab interests in the region, will be harmed.

[Announcer] What of the future of coordination between the PLO and Jordan?

['Arafat] Concerning the other part of the question, of course there have been, right from the first moment, Iraqi and Egyptian attempts to mediate between us and brothers in Jordan to achieve a ground far from crisis and escalation. King Fahd also expressed the same fraternal attitude during my recent visit with him in Riyadh. There are also Arab attempts which we hope will succeed because we do not want to escalate the situation. It is King Husayn who stopped coordination. This question should be directed to him.

[Announcer] Abu 'Ammar, as you know, the recent escalation in the Iraq-Iran war took new dimensions. Do you expect that the current efforts to stop this war will succeed?

['Arafat] I sincerely hope that they will succeed, particularly when the Iranian leadership has so far rejected all good office efforts by the ICO, the Nonaligned Movement, the United Nations, and other parties at a time when Iraq has accepted all of these efforts to stop the war, which is against the interest of the Iraqi and Iranian people, the Muslim and Arab nation, and against the Palestinian people and the Palestinian issue in particular. I say to the Iranian leadership that if this war continues, it will be the main obstacle to the liberation of Jerusalem, the first Qiblah and the third among the holiest mosques.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf, Salim al-Za'nun Visit Qatar

GF220626 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1825 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 21 Mar (WAKH) — Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, arrived in Doha this evening on a 2-day visit to Qatar within the framework of their current tour of a number of Arab Gulf countries.

During their tour, the two Fatah officials will brief officials in the region's countries on the new Arab developments in general and Palestinian developments in particular.

Fatah's Salah Khalaf Calls For Arab Summit

GF231658 Manama WAKH in English 1610 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Member of the Central Committee of Palestine National Liberation Movement Fatah Salah Khalaf affirmed the necessity of holding an Arab summit to discuss all marginal differences and discuss dangers facing the Arabs.

At a press conference held in Manama today, Mr Khalaf stressed the dangers of the current stage and challenges facing the Arabs due to the latest escalation of the Iraq-Iran war, American threats to Libya, the deteriorated situation on the Lebanese arena and south Sudan, and the Palestinian cause.

"Finding solidarity among Arab countries will solve all these problems and help us confront these dangers and challenges," he said.

He stressed the importance of convening an international conference to solve the Palestinian cause to be attended by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and with the participation of all parties concerned with the issue.

He renewed the PLO'S rejection of Resolution No 242 as it does not tackle the core of the issue but only treats the issue of borders between Arabs and Israel.

Khalaf said U.S. pressure on the organisation to accept Resolution No. 242 under the pretext of making use of the opportunities will not scare us." [no opening quotes as received]

He stressed the right of Palestinian people to self-determination in their homeland under the leadership of the PLO, their sole and legitimate representative.

He said that Jordanian-Palestinian coordination will not stop. "Our battle is not with Jordan, but with the United States which is rejecting the principle of self-determination for the Palestinian people," he added.

Mr. Khalaf condemned the latest Iranian offensive on Iraq, calling on Iran to resort to logic to put an end to the war which only benefits the enemies of the Arab and Islamic nation. He hailed Iraq's stance which favours a peaceful end to the war.

Qaddumi Grants Interview to KHALEEJ TIMES

GF211108 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English
21 Mar 85 p 4

[Interview with Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, by John Bulloch, "on behalf of the Gulf Centre for Strategic Studies" — date and place not given]

[Text] Q. What is the purpose of your visit to London.
A. I have come here to meet people, the leaders of the opposition, of the Labour Party, the Liberals, the Social Democrats, and the representatives of the syndicates, the trades unions. Generally, to have a round of talks with our friends in the United Kingdom.

Q. You will also be seeing some government officials?
A. This may also be on the agenda.

Q. And what will you be telling them, what is your message now?
A. Well, in fact I have no message to give them. We just have to discuss the latest developments in the Middle East.

Q. Given what has happened in Amman, and King Husayn's statement that the peace process, his talks with Mr 'Arafat, are at an end, how do you see it all now. Where can we go from here?
A. This is not the only way through which peace can go ahead, in order to reach the objective that we are aiming for. This was one of the attempts that proved to be a failure — as a result of the attitude of the United States, because they have rejected and denied the Palestinian peoples right to self-determination. They do not change their attitude, and remain as hostile as ever to the rights of the Palestinians.

Q. But the Americans did move, didn't they, in the talks with King Husayn and Mr 'Arafat. The Americans had offered something new — they were willing to go along with an international conference at last and they were willing to accept a separate Palestinian delegation at that conference. Wasn't that something quite new?
A. I don't think so. The Americans did not accept anything. They danced in their place only, but they did not move.

Q. They are saying they did.
A. Movement means that you make progress, but they have made no progress in this course. On the contrary, they have blocked the way for any further conference, any progress. They will not accept an international conference.

Q. They say they did.
A. No. I challenge any official who says he accepts an international conference. There is a difference between an international umbrella and an effective and competent international conference. They were just talking about an umbrella. The spokesman of the American secretary of state said they agreed only on the international umbrella, but no details should be discussed. And they agreed to the participation of the Palestinians, not the PLO. And he said that even if the PLO would accept and recognize Resolution 242, they would not buy a chair at the negotiating table. Not the PLO, just some group of Palestinians. They wanted to deny us a national identity.

Q. You put up three drafts calling for self-determination?
A. Yes. They were rejected, each one of them.

Q. King Husayn was quite bitter, and though he may not have said it in his speech, was putting the blame on the PLO. Why?
A. He was frustrated, I think. King Husayn was promised by the Americans but they did not fulfil their promises so he became a little bit distraught and frustrated with the Americans. But that he should blame the weak party — that is understandable.

Q. If you — Mr 'Arafat — had said OK, we accept Resolution 242, what would have happened?
A. If! You know these hypothetical question, I don't like them. It's as if 'if' was my name! It would mean if we accepted that we are only refugees and not a people, which means that conflicts between states and the PLO have nothing to do with it. We would have recognised the right of Israel to exist without getting anything in return. It would mean accepting 1967 boundaries as the Israeli boundaries, which we don't.

Q. Would't most Palestinians settle for 1967 boundaries now and think that was quite good?
A. I don't think so.

Q. So where do we go from here?
A. We have to continue our struggle on all fronts, the diplomatic front, the political front, the armed struggle.

Q. What about Mr 'Arafat's Cairo declaration?
A. He said the armed struggle would be confined to the occupied territories, that's right, but all Palestine is occupied, and this means that we continue our struggle in the occupied territories, and this is something exactly right.

Q. But you would be against hijackings and so on?
A. We have to retaliate in case they launch an attack against our people or installations outside the occupied territories. This should be reciprocal.

Q. On the diplomatic front, which is what you are chiefly concerned about, how do we proceed. Is it a question of trying to get unity among the Arab states and unity among the Palestinians?
A. We are doing our best in order to reinforce and consolidate national unity and Arab solidarity. It is very important in this new stage to increase our efforts to consolidate the unity inside the PLO and in the Arab world, to enhance solidarity among different Arab states.

Q. We could have said that at any time in the last 15 years or so. The Arab world now is as divided as it was 15 years ago. You are making no progress.
A. They were divided but they united to fight Israel in 1973.

Q. They haven't been united since.
A. Well, I think this means that they are not split, and when they realise that their divisions may hurt their cause they are supposed to come to the Arab League and consolidate their efforts and support solidarity among themselves. There are many reasons for divisions. We are not asking for them to become one state.

Q. On the Palestinian side we have divisions. There are a lot of people sitting in Damascus...?
A. It has to be clear that there is only the PLO and all are inside the PLO. But this is democracy. They might not agree with the present leadership of the PLO. You have the same thing, the Labour Party, the Conservative Party, the Socialists, the Communists and the others in France, so this is democracy. But all of us have one national political programme that all of us agree.

Q. At the last PNC in Amman only about 70 percent of the PLO was represented.
A. That's a good percentage — Seventy percent! De Gaulle did not get that and, therefore, he resigned.

Q. You mentioned the leadership, and there is considerable talk now about that, and many people think there is a need for change. What is your attitude?
A. The National Council has the right to change the leadership and they can discuss all the items on the agenda of the National Council - to change the leadership, to bring another leadership, to change half of the leadership, to do whatever they want if they think it will serve the cause of the Palestinian people.

Q. When is the next PNC due?
A. It is supposed to meet this year, it has to meet, but we have not fixed the time for the meeting yet.

Q. And would you expect the question of the leadership to be on the agenda at the PNC meeting?
A. I don't think the present leadership would put this on the agenda but it is supposed to be, it is one of the procedures to be followed that the chairman should present the resignation to the National Council at each meeting, at each session. It is the time for the leadership to resign and then another leadership would be elected.

Q. Do you think that's possible?
A. Yes.

Q. What about your personal position. Have you agreed all the time with what Abu Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has done?
A. It doesn't mean that we agree - nobody would agree with the other all the time. Even I don't agree with my wife, but still we are living together for 25 years! This is the same thing: differences in views is definitely necessary in order to approve the final decisions which we take as a collective leadership.

Q. It seems to me you are taking a very long view of things, that you don't expect any quick action, quick results?
A. I don't think so. I don't expect quick things, no.

Q. What effect would changes in Israel have?
A. This makes no difference. They have the same strategy but they are different in their tactics. I don't believe the Labour alignment would be willing to negotiate. Obviously, the Labour Party is the party who launched two wars against Arabs. That is the Labour Party.

Q. In the West Bank, does the PLO represent the West Bank people?
A. Yes, more than 90 percent.

Q. The Israelis want people to take over, and Mr al-Masri did and was killed. What is the future there?
A. It is necessary that the people in the West Bank are not with the planning being implemented by the military authorities or by the Israelis. This is what the Israelis intend to do, to have this scene, lots of government for the colonists. We don't agree to that, neither the PLO nor the people in the West Bank. Al-Masri was not a part of that and he was not intending to be, but the planning of the Israelis is to contain the West Bank and to split it from the PLO, but the West Bank people, all together, are with the PLO, and insist that the PLO be the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

Q. But it is a very long slow process which has been going on since '48, and in fact it's got worse, hasn't it?
A. I don't think it has got worse. I should say that in 1950 when Trygve Lie presented the ause of Palestine as a refugee case, as a social problem ... [elipses as published] Now. things have changed, changed since 1974. We have become the sole representative of the Palestinian people. Now our people, all together, have become one united entity. Instead of being divided between Iraelis and West Bank and Gaza, now they are all Palestinians in one body, called the PLO recognised by the overwhelming majority of the United Nations.

Q. But they are living in the camps, in the disaspora, or under occupation.
A. (Silence)

Q. There has been no advance?
A. Well, that's all right. You know the Israelis, or the Jews, they

claim they have been there since thousands of years. Do you think we will be cowed in one century or two centuries. We are ready to fight until we regain our whole rights.

Q. Whole rights. The whole of Palestine?

A. Whole rights. Self-determination, the independent state of Palestine, and return to Palestine.

Q. This is going to take generations?
A. Well, why not, peace may take generations. But I am more optimistic than you are: it will take less time. Some decades, a few decades, not generations.

Further Coverage On OPEC Geneva Conference

Decision Expected 24 March

LD231933 Vienna OPECNA in English 1906 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 23 Mar. 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers adjourned their deliberations until Monday [24 MArch] morning following two sessions today.

Sources close to the conference said the ministers would hold further consultations tonight and prepare proposals aimed at reaching a final decision Monday. The ministers began their 77th (extraordinary) conference meeting last Sunday to formulate measures to stabilize the oil market and strengthen prices.

Five non-OPEC producing countries — Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman — which joined the talks here at OPEC'S invitation, have expressed their readiness to cooperate with the organization, according to Dr Arturo Hernandez-Grisanti, current OPEC president.

Grisanti Blocks Output Limit

AU231956 Paris AFP in English 1941 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Geneva, March 23 (AFP) — The Venezuelan OPEC president, Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, blocked agreement on Sunday on an OPEC compromise providing for a lowering of the 13 OPEC countries overall output to 14 million barrles a day (MBD), a ministerial source told AFP.

Mr Hernandez Grisanti told other ministers he would have to consult with his president, Jaime Jusinchi, the source said. Other sources said he had made it clear that he could not "cut by one barrel" wihtout referring the matter to his president.

Venezuelan delegation officials declined any comment, and insisted that discussions here are "confidential."

Iran also raised objections to a compromise proposal on national production quotas under the 14 MBD ceiling proposed for the second quarter, Arab sources said. They said they expected a solution on this point, however.

The sources said Indonesia's energy minister, Dr Subroto, a former OPEC president, met the Iranian and Libyan delegation heads here tonight in a bid to smooth the way for an agreement.

Dr Subroto was asked by the other 12 ministers earlier today to draw up propsoals for a temporary cutback in national production quotas under the proposed ceiling of 14 MBD, which means a three MBD cutback compared with current OPEC production levels.

UAE Minister Wants To Leave

AU241000 Paris AFP in English 0951 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 24 (AFP) — There is no agreement in view at the meeting here of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), Emirates Oil Minister Mani Sa'id al-'Utayba said Monday [24 March], as talks resumed.

"We have no agreement on (production) quotas or on ceilings, I can't see an agreement," he said. He added that a compromise proposal Sunday night by Indonesian Minister Dr. Subroto had been opposed by several delegations. Venezuela's team declared open opposition.

The Emirates minister also said: "My quota is decided in Abu Dhabi, not here. I want to go home."

Monday was the ninth day of the Geneva meeting.

Rejects Proposed Quota

GF241036 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Petroleum and Natural Resources Minister Mani' Sa'id al-'utaybah has declared that the UAE refuses to have anyone determine its quota [of oil production] and that the UAE is prepared to make as much sacrifices as anyone else. He said: The UAE, which in the past used to let others determine its production quota, will not now allow anyone to determine its quota.

Al-'utaybah's declaration follows the statement by Indonesian Mining and Energy Minister Dr Subroto — who was charged with fixing the production quotas of OPEC member states — in which he declared that the UAE's quota will be only 900,000 barrels per day [BPD]. *AL-ITTIHAD* has learned that Al-'utaybah has made an official request to increase the UAE's production quota to 1.5 million BPD, of which 1 million barrels are the quota for the amirate of Abu Dhabi while the remainder are the quota for the other UAE amirates.

The petroleum and natural resources minister said: The proposed quota is not proportional with the UAE's oil reserves nor with its production capability of 4 million BPD. He said that during the 1983 OPEC conference in London the UAE agreed to a quota of 950,000 BPD for the amirate of Abu Dhabi alone and that the other amirates will produce as much as their production average in addition to Abu Dhabi's quota.

AL-ITTIHAD has also learned that Ramzi Salman, the leader of the Iraqi delegation to the OPEC conference, has strongly opposed the proposal to maintain Iraq's quota at its previous level of 1.1 million BPD. In a statement to *AL-ITTIHAD*, OPEC sources said that during the conference's evening session yesterday [Kuwaiti Oil and Industry Minister] Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Sabah informed the conference that he is compelled to withdraw his agreement to the quota allocated to Kuwait, namely 787,000 BPD, as he had sensed that most OPEC member states do not agree to the proposed plan for the distribution of quotas.

Saudi Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani informed the conference that it has become difficult for him to persuade his government to agree to reduce Saudi Arabia's quota by 19.8 percent, as differences over the quotas have emerged at the conference.

OPEC oil ministers are scheduled to resume their meetings later today.

Price War Still Possible

GF230843 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0720 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text]Geneva, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Dr Mani' Sa'id al-'Utaybah, UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources, has affirmed that the circumstances which led to the outbreak of the oil price war still exist.

In a statement to a WAKH correspondent in Geneva, Dr Al-'Utaybah urged all OPEC and non-OPEC oil-producing countries to agree among themselves on shouldering the burden of defending the oil market. Al-'Utaybah was responding to a question on whether the extraordinary OPEC session currently meeting in Geneva can be regarded as an end to the price war.

He added: "All oil-producing countries, both those which have attended the current OPEC meetings and the North Sea producers, must bear the responsibility for defending the price for a barrel of oil."

He said that it is not fair that a particular group of countries, whose economies depend entirely on oil, should shoulder the burden while rich and industrial countries continue to adopt an irresponsible policy toward the oil market.

Dr al-'Utaybah described the oil price as an economic war which harms everyone and afects all countries' economies. He referred to the unsuccessful efforts made within OPEC in order to find a solution that would avert such a war.

The UAE minister of petroleum and natural resources affirmed that OPEC countries, including the Arab countries in the Gulf, have been compelled to reduce production and tighten their belts in order to defend the oil market. As a result, they lost many clients, which affected their economic and social development, at a time when the non-OPEC oil-producing countries continued to increase production to full capacity .

Dr al-'Utaybah reviewed the oil situation and its effects on OPEC. He said: "We discovered last December that it is difficult for us to defend oil prices through our economy and consequently we decided to abandon the role of preserving a balanced market. OPEC, like other producers, allowed market factors to act freely."

Dr al-'Utaybah believes that the solution must be comprehensive and take into consideration the role of all oil-producing countries, since these countries play a role in bearing responsibility for defending the market in a just and balanced way that is proportional to the amount of production, and strategic oil reserves, in addition to the production capacity of every country, and the separate financial requirements and economic situation of every country.

Talks Resume 23 March

NC231026 Paris AFP in English 1014 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text]Geneva, March 23 (AFP) — Oil Ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries Sunday [23 March] resumed negotiations here in the hopes of reaching agreement on limiting their output to stabilize the oil market.

Ministers said as they entered the meeting that they "hoped" the 13 member countries could agree. "Everything is possible," United Arab Emirates Minister Mani Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah told reporters.

Kuwait Minister Comments

LD230936 Kuwait KUNA in English 0803 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 23 (KUNA) — Oil Minister Sheikh 'Ali al-Khalifah was quoted here Sunday as denying reports that Kuwait is blocking agreement on a new OPEC production ceiling and individual quotas and stressed that Kuwait had demonstrated maximum flexibility.

In separate statements to dailies *AL-WATAN* and *AL-ANBA'*, the minister said "the problem does not rest in setting a ceiling but allocating quotas within this ceiling."

He said any talk about reducing the current 17 million barrels a day ceiling is meaningless because some members are not only refusing to trim their outputs but believe their present quotas are unfair.

"If they talk of 14 million barrels a day then we agree and if they mention 15 millions a day we also agree," Sheikh 'Ali said adding that "if a choice is made to set individual quotas first and reach a ceiling (?then all) this is also acceptable to us.

"We are seeking a formula applicable to all parties and, following all this flexibility how can it be said that we are blocking a deal," the Kuwaiti official asked.

Affirming Kuwait's keenness on restoring market and price stability, Sheikh 'Ali said the Gulf state is willing to cut her current OPEC quota of 900,000 barrels a day "but it would be unacceptable for us to be asked to produce 200,000 barrels a day only."

The minister said it is better for OPEC to reach agreement now before tomorrow. "If we fail to conclude an agreement today, we will be forced to strike a deal in two months, but all of us will be losers by then."

He said Kuwait had proposed forming an experts committee within OPEC or from the outside to decide on a new ceiling and production quotas based on a set of criteria such as population size, gross national income and oil reserves.

The minister blamed the stalemate in the current OPEC conference on some political factors, which he did not identify, and attempts by some members to make gains at the expense of others.

Sheikh 'Ali stressed the pressing need for reaching a comprehensive agreement as a first step towards driving up oil prices, the (?drop of) which, he said "had hurt us all."

Production Cut Reported

LD222105 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1902 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 22 Mar (KUNA) — OPEC meeting sources said that the ministers who have been meeting here since last week have decided today to lower the petroleum organization's production ceiling to 14 million barrels per day [MBD].

The sources told KUNA that Gulf countries petroleum ministers have agreed to lower their countries' production levels but they have stipulated that members must adhere to a lower production level [as received]. In this context it was said that the countries which want to raise their production shares are Iraq, Ecuador, Iran, Gabon and Nigeria.

The ministers' agreement on lowering the production ceiling from 16 MBD comes after 7 days of deliberating and negotiating which led to a preliminary conclusion that necessity compels OPEC to lower its daily production to maintain a reasonable level for the price of a barrel of oil.

Conference sources said that lowering production will not become effective unless all members, without exception, agreed to the proposed reduction. In this context, it is understood that there is an agreement among OPEC ministers to the effect that if an agreement stipulating that the maximum level of the production ceiling must be 15 MBD is not reached, the emergency meeting, which has been held here since last Saturday, will end tomorrow.

Most delegates dismissed a statement made last night by the current OPEC chairman, the Venezuelian Petroleum and Mines Minister Arturo Grisanti in which he said that OPEC would defend the official price of 28 dollars [unspecified] for a barrel of oil.

Despite the pessimism that dominates the conference proceedings, according to observers there is a chance on the horizon of the possibility that the emergency conference would lead to an agreement later tonight.

New Ceiling Discussed

AU222131 Paris AFP in English 2116 GMT 22 Mar 86

[By Jan Kristiansen]

[Text] Geneva, March 22 (AFP) — Oil ministers of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries may wind up their week-long emergency talks here in a day or two limiting their output to around 14.5 million barrels a day (MBD) in the second quarter, delegation officials said tonight.

uf blank,l The figure was thrown into the bargaining between conservative Gulf countries led by Saudi Arabia and the organisation's three "hardliners" — Algeria, Iran and Libya — by Dr. Subroto of Indonesia, which forms the "middle-of-the-road" group here with Nigeria and Venezuela.

In talks with five non-OPEC oil producers that wound up here Friday [21 March] night, the OPEC countries and their partners — Angola, Egypt, Malaysia, Mexico and Oman — set a "common objective" of restoring and "defending" OPEC's official reference price of 28 dollars a barrel for the Arabian light grade.

To achieve this target, "we have to cut production at least for the next six months so that the market will respond", Libya's Energy Secretary Fawzi Shakshuki told Agence France-Presse tonight.

He said the ministers were seeking to work out "provisional quotas for the next six months" pending a more permanent redistribution of individual quotas among the 13 member countries.

Mani' Ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, oil minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), also said that the ministers intended to defer the issue of longer term quota adjustments. He said that this is "something to be left for some time later."

Mr. Shakshuki confirmed that the ministers were now thinking in terms of a seasonal production ceiling of 14 to 15 MBD — "14.2, 14.3 or 14.5," he added.

OPEC's output is currently running at just over 17 MBD.

The organisation set a ceiling of 16 MBD at the end of 1984, but member countries have disregarded it since the middle of last year.

Mr. Al-'Utaybah, interviewed by an American TV network, said the right approach for OPEC countries was to "protect our market, protect our (market) share, produce at a level that will generate enough income for us, and at the same time have a fair price."

He said that "any price increase must be gradual, so as to avoid sharp shocks" that could unsettle the world economy.

Mr. Al-'Utaybah and other ministers reaffirmed the need for non-OPEC countries in addition to the five involved in this week's consultations here to cut back on their output in order to stabilize the market.

The OPEC ministers suspended their talks at midday Saturday to pursue a series of bilateral contacts. They set their next session for Sunday morning, and several delegates said they hope to wind up the meeting during the day.

Iran Threatens To Flood Market

AU221500 Paris AFP in English 1455 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, March 22 (AFP) — Iran's Oil Minister Gholamreza Aghazadeh today threatened to flood the market with crude oil if the current Geneva meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) breaks up without agreement on production cutbacks in order to bolster oil prices.

"If we do not reach any agreement every state will be free to use its whole capacity, and I am in a position to say that Iraq will not be able to stop us from exporting, or harm us," he said in an interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

"Today we are able to produce more than 5 million barrels per day (MBD) so that our current quota of 2.4 MBD is far less than our capacity," he added.

Mr. Aghazadeh said that although Iran's production and export capacity was "far beyond" its OPEC quota, "we are sticking to this quota because of solidarity and unity in OPEC."

Iran wants a reduction of 3 MBD in OPEC production from the present official ceiling of 16 MBD, he said, adding that other proposed numbers discussed were "not small" but were "still not accepted by us."

He was speaking as OPEC ministers were considering proposals for cutting output to 15 MBD, 14 MBD or 13 MBD.

The Iranian minister disclosed that "within the next few months, Iran will increase its export facilities from 10 MBD to 13 MBD."

"We are setting up in many areas along the Gulf coast numerous facilities that I cannot reveal for strategic reasons," he added.

He declined to comment on Saudi Arabia's opposition to sharp cuts in OPEC production, and Riyadh's support for Iraq in the Gulf conflict.

"The problems go beyond our region," he said. "We believe that at the top, behind this conspiracy, there is the United States."

'Private Talks' Planned

LD221429 Vienna OPECNA in English 1305 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Geneva, 22 Mar 86 (OPECNA) — OPEC oil ministers have adjourned their first session today and plan to have 'private consultations' this afternoon.

Conference President Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti is expected to meet member country delegations during the talks later today. It is understood that the 77th (extraodinary) OPEC conference meeting, which entered its seventh day today, will continue here Sunday [23 March] morning.

Non-OPEC Suppliers Cut Production

GF211840 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] A dialogue session, which included the ministerial committee commissioned by OPEC and the ministers of non-OPEC oil-producing countries, has ended its discussion of a number of important issues which require a rapprochment of views and approval by all the ministers. Following the session, the ministers did not give any new information on the results achieved during the meeting.

The Omani minister of petroleum and minerals, however, expressed confidence that matters are proceeding well and will take better shape in the evening session which will be held later today.

Five non-OPEC oil-producing countries have decided to reduce their general oil production by 20 percent. They are Egypt, Angola, Mexico, Malaysia, and Oman. It is known that these countries daily produce 4.5 million barrels of oil. This is equal to one-third of the overall production of the OPEC members.

Talks End With Proposal For Nonmembers

PA211710 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] With hopeful decisions within the parameters that OPEC established to achieve the stability of the oil market, the round of talks for today just ended.

Here is a telephone report from Geneva by our special reporter. Jenny Silva, go ahead:

[Begin live telephone relay in progress] ...concluded the meeting between the OPEC and non-OPEC countries that are trying to reach an agreement on production here in Geneva.

The meeting began after the full OPEC conference appointed a three-minister commission made up of Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, and Algeria to present to the five non-OPEC countries their proposal which they approved yesterday.

The meeting agreed that OPEC is willing to defend a reasonable level of prices with the indispensable prerequisite that the non-OPEC countries plus any others which may join them be willing to reduce their production by approximately 20 percent in order to reestablish a balance between supply and demand. Apparently there is a good disposition on the part of these nations to continue with this cut and to help in the stabilization of the market.

It was learned from OPEC sources that once the non-OPEC countries complete a reduction program within a very short term, the organization would establish a program of annual quotas which will finally depend on the production volume that these countries agree on.

These countries meeting here in Geneva and which are not OPEC members will immediately begin contacts with other producers and exporters to convince them, within a short period, to also help in this cause. These contacts include North Sea producers, the PRC, and the Soviet Union.

In the meantime, the OPEC ministers conference will continue in Geneva until they reach an internal agreement on their own production quotas but, in the meantime, permanent contact will continue with the non-OPEC countries which are involved in the efforts that were just mentioned.

In addition, a new meeting has been planned. It will be held either with the full conference members or with the commission of three ministers formed today in order to learn of the results of these contacts.

This afternoon, the full OPEC conference, headed by Venezuelan Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, will be informed of the agreements reached in the meeting that just ended.

To conclude, it can be said that the goal of the exporting countries present in Geneva is that once an agreement is reached to face the market crisis within a short term, progress be made in the formalization of a joint-action mechanism that allow them to stabilize the market within a medium and long term.

However, the creation of this agreement may last a few days, but there is the determination of the member countries, but not that of OPEC, to continue discussions until they find specific solutions. [end relay]

BAHRAIN

Fatah Central Committee Members Arrive in Manama

GF221942 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1925 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Doha [as received], 22 Mar (WAKH) — Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, arrived in Manama from Doha tonight on a visit to the state of Bahrain as part of their tour to a number of region countries.

During their visit the two Palestinian officials will brief Bahraini officials on recent developments on the Arab arena in general, and the Palestinian arena in particular.

They were received by Shaykh 'Abd al-Rahman ibn Faris Al Khalifah, director of financial and consular affairs at the Foreign Ministry; and Wafa Nibhan, director of the PLO office in Manama.

Received by Amir

GF231037 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0835 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, today received Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, who are visiting Manama.

The meeting was attended by Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini foreign minister; Shaykh 'abd al-Rahman ibn Faris Al Khalifah, director of administration finances and consular affairs at the Foreign Ministry; Wafa Nabhan, director of the PLO office in Bahrain; and Yasin al-Sharif, director of the PLO office in Doha.

In a statement to WAKH, Salah Khalaf described his meeting with the amir of Bahrain as positive and fruitful in view of his highness' well-known interest and support for the Palestinian cause and the Palestinian people's rights.

He said that he reviewed with his highness the amir of Bahrain the latest developments of the Palestinian issue, matters connected with the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and the talks which the Palestinian leadership had with His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan.

Salah Khalaf added that His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah asserted Bahrain's desire for continued fraternal relations between the PLO and Jordan. He said that he has informed his highness of the conditions of the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories and the repressive measures that they face at the hands of the Israeli occupation authorities.

The Palestinian official said that he discussed with his highness the amir of Bahrain the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and its recent escalation. He affirmed the Palestinian people's willingness to defend any part of the Gulf countries which is subject to foreign aggression.

Salah Khalaf renewed the PLO's call to end the destructive war between the two neighboring countries in view of the destruction that it causes and the threat that it poses to the security of the Gulf.

He added that the meeting also dealt with new developments on the Arab arena and the challenges that confront the Arab nation.

The Palestinian official praised Bahrain's constant stand in supporting the Palestinian cause, and the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Depart for Kuwait 23 March

GF231948 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad, and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee, have left Manama for Kuwait after a 2-day visit to the State of Bahrain.

Foreign Minister Leaves for Tunis Meeting

GF231442 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1245 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini minister of foreign affairs, left Manama for Tunis at noon today leading Bahrain's delegation to the Arab League's 85th session, due to begin in Tunis on Monday at the ministerial level.

BMA Official Denies Dinar Devaluation Rumors

GF230558 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 23 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Persistent rumours of a devaluation of the Bahraini dinar against the U.S. dollar were again dismissed by the Bahrain Monetary Agency [BMA] yesterday.

A devaluation has been speculated on by the banking community for months but has been repeatedly denied by the BMA. Yesterday a BMA official dismissed the suggestions yet again, pointing out there was "no economic justification" for such a move.

U.S. Exercises Off Libya 'Inflame' Situation

GF230801 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0655 GMT 23 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Manama, 23 Mar (WAKH) — The Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* says that all the elements of confrontation, clashes, escalation, and intervention are now present in the Gulf of Sidra. The paper refers to the U.S. decision to proceed with its military maneuvers in the Mediterranean, and the large concentration of warships which the United States has stationed opposite the Libyan Gulf of Sidra.

The paper remarks that the situation may be inflamed at any moment now in the southern Mediterranean and the world will have to abandon all its worries and occupations in order to try to extinguish the new fire and prevent it — if possible — from giving off the spark that would start a third world war.

In conclusion, the paper says that the world will experience uneasiness during the next 10 days, which is the duration of the U.S. maneuvers opposite the Libyan shores, at a time when it needs to concentrate its efforts on extinguishing the existing fires in numerous other regions.

Daily on Attacks Against Israelis in Egypt

GF211154 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0820 GMT 21 Mar 86

[From the press review]

[Text] Manama, 21 Mar (WAKH) — Commenting on the armed operations against Israeli targets in Cairo, the Bahraini newspaper *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* states in its editorial today: Evidence from this is clear and definite — the Egyptian people reject the Camp David accords clearly and unequivocally. Their rejection of any Israeli presence in Egypt is without doubt.

The newspaper notes that the armed attacks are not the only manifestation of this Egyptian rejection. The people's opposition to the Camp David accords has never ceased for a day. This opposition has taken various forms — protesting relations with Israel and demonstrations supporting the PLO and the Palestinian people's rights.

The newspaper affirms that the lesson which can be learned from the recent attack and other forms of rejection is that it is simply not true — as some say — that the Egyptian people support the Camp David accords and relations with Israel. Various proof has made it very clear that this talk is a mere illusion which has no basis of truth.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Calls for Summit on Arab Situation

LD231624 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1523 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 23 Mar (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister and foreign minister, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, today called for the convening of an Arab summit at the earliest possible date to study the deteriorated state of the Arab world.

The call came in a statement made by Shaykh Sabah to pressmen before leaving for Tunis to attend the 85th session of the Arab League due to open in the Tunisian capital tomorrow.

Shaykh Sabah described the Arab world now as having: lost its respect before the world and been destroyed psychologically, militarily and economically. He said the current situation necessitated the convening of an Arab summit to discuss the situation and Arab countries' relations in confronting each other.

Regarding the postponed Arab summit, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that most Arab countries favored convening the summit. He said that the GCC foreign ministers will hold talks on the periphery of the session with other brothers on continuing efforts to convene the summit.

On whether there was a proposal calling for the implementaiton of the Arab joint defense agreement that would be submitted by GCC countries to the Arab League, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said this agreement should be implemented without any need for a proposal or request for it. However, Arab differences have not, regrettably, allowed this agreement to breath or see light. He said that GCC countries will make efforts during the session to mobilize energies so that the Arab League Charter and the Arab Joint Defense Pact would get their share of practical implementation.

On whether there were any positive results from the contacts made by him and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal regarding the normalization of relations between Iraq and Syria, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that concerning the Syrian position there was no new development. As for Algeria, he said that it was not a party to the issue, but it was playing a positive role in efforts to remove differences between the two countries.

Arab League To Be Asked To Implement Defense Pact

GF231430 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 22 Mar 86 p 1

['Amid al-Shanti report]

[Text] Gulf diplomatic sources have told *AL-QABAS* that the GCC countries will ask the Arab League to implement the joint defense strategy in case one of them is subjected to a foreign threat. The sources stated that the Arab foreign ministers meeting scheduled to be held on Monday [24 March] will be of great importance due to the circumstances the Arab world is passing through, particularly the developments of the Iraq-Iran war and its repercussions on the overall Arab situation and the outcome of the exchanges of the Arab seven-member committee with the countries concerned, including the permanent Security Council members concerning the war and the Security Council's recent resolution on it and an overall assessment of the issue.

The sources affirmed that new ideas would be presented at the meeting. They did not rule out that the visit by Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to Tehran was part of the current Arab contacts.

The Arab League meeting would also form a number of political, economic, and administrative committees to discuss all Arab developments, particularly the Iraq-Iran war, the Palestinian issue, and the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, and the activities and work of the Arab League and its cadres. The sources stated that there is a proposal to ask the Arab seven-member committee to continue its activities and exchanges with the countries of the world.

This week Kuwait is witnessing a number of intensified Arab contacts. King Husayn of Jordan is expected to arrive in Kuwait mid-week. Also Yasir 'Arafat, accompanied by Salah Khalaf, will arrive in Kuwait on Sunday or Monday [23 or 24 March] as part of his current tour of the Gulf region.

A responsible source has told *AL-QABAS* that intensified Arab contacts to discuss these developments are underway.

Arab League Delegation, Meeting Agenda Listed
LD221438 Kuwanit KUNA in English 1300 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Kuwait, March 22 (KUNA) — Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad leaves here Sunday for Tunis to attend the Arab League's 85th ministerial session scheduled to convene Monday.

The Kuwaiti delegation includes director of Shaykh Sabah's office 'Abdallah Saud al-Abdalrazaq, head of the Arab affairs at the Foreign Ministry Khalid al-Jarrallah, and a number of foreign officials.

Official sources told KUNA that the Arab foreign ministers will discuss, during their three-day meetings the Iraq-Iran war, the efforts exerted by the Arab League seven-man follow-up committee including contacts with the differert international and regional parties.

The ministers will also discuss amending the Arab League Charter and the proposals submitted on this issue.

The sources said the Arab ministers will discuss the current Arab situation in addition to means of solving inter-Arab differences and of strengthening Arab solidarity.

GCC Force Ready To Aid Any Gulf Country
GF211442 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 20 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by 'Abdallah al-Janafawi]

[Text] Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid, Kuwaiti minister of state for Cabinet Affairs, has stated that the amir of Kuwait's visit to His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz was that of one brother to another, and was made on the occasion of his majesty the Saudi king's presence in an area close to Kuwait. He said it is a great honor for the leaders to meet in an atmosphere of fraternity without need of protocol.

In a statement to *AL-QABAS* Rashid 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rashid denied rumors concerning the departure of a Kuwaiti delegation to Moscow to discuss the search for a solution to the Iraq-Iran war. He said: "We are always urging an end to the destructive war between the two Muslim and neighboring countries. We make efforts to this end in all our contacts and on all levels — on the level of the leadership and other levels — and with big and small countries. We urge an end to the war and cooperation to halt the attrition of lives and wealth. This is our declared and constant policy. We will continue this policy, looking for every gleam of hope to achieve this goal."

Responding to a question by *AL-QABAS* on the preparations of the Peninsula Shield Force, he said: "This force is prepared and these preparations were agreed upon during the meetings of the GCC foreign ministers last month in implementation of a previous GCC resolution which provides for the Peninsula Shield Force to be ready and prepared to assist any Gulf country."

OMAN

Minister Departs for Arab League Meetings
GF231358 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, left the country for Tunis today to head the Sultanate's delegation to the meetings of the 85th session of the Arab League Council.

The minister was seen off by a number of officials at the Foreign Ministry.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Departs for Tunis 21 March
GF211145 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Brother Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali, member of the YSP Political Bureau and foreign minister, left Aden this morning for Tunis to attend the Arab League Council session which will convene on the Foreign Ministry level during 24-26 March. The session will discuss a number of current Arab issues.

He was seen off by Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister, and a number of officials at the Foreign Ministry.

YSP Delegation Departs for CSSR Party Congress
GF211716 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The YSP will participate in the meetings of the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] which will convene in Prague in the next few days. The YSP delegation, which left Aden for Prague this evening, is led by Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee.

Prior to his departure, Brother Muhsin stated that during its participation in the meetings of the conference, the delegation will hold discussions with CPCZ leaders on cooperation between the YSP and CPCZ, and relations between the two friendly countries and ways to promote them. He added that the delegation will also hold contacts with the delegations of fraternal and friendly parties and liberation movements on cooperation between the YSP and these parties. He said that he will inform these fraternal and friendly delegations about the facts and the dimensions of the unsuccessful coup attempt carried out by conspirator 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and his adventurous clique, and its effects in all fields and current efforts to eliminate them.

Brother Muhammad Sa'id 'Abdallah Muhsin was seen off at Aden international airport by Brother Fadil Muhsin 'Abdallah, member of the YSP Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, and a number of state and party officials.

MENA: Lebanese Paper Notes Differences Among Leaders

NC221457 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, 22 Mar (MENA) — The Lebanese paper *AL-NAHAR* reports today that there are differences within the PDRY's ruling Yemen Socialist Party Politburo. These differences have arisen as the result of demands for the execution of 125 state and party officials who had served during President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad's regime. The paper adds that Abu al-Bakr al-'Attas, chairman of the Supreme People's Council, and 'Ali Salim al-Bid led those who were opposed to the implementation of the execution sentences and who refused to sign the orders.

QATAR

Amir Receives Fatah Central Committee Members

GF221048 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness the Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani received in his office at the Al-Dawhah Palace at 1030 today Salah Khalaf and Salim al-Za'nun, members of the Fatah Central Committee. The audience was attended by Yasin al-Sharif, director of the PLO office in Doha. QNA has learned that the Palestinian delegation reviewed with his highness the amir the latest Palestinian developments on the Arab and international levels, the current Arab situation, and the developments of the Middle East crisis in general.

SAUDI ARABIA

Crown Prince Receives Iranian Majlis Member

GF231254 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Mar (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and chief of the National Guard, received in his office at the royal court today Dr Mohammad 'Ali Hadi, deputy chief of the Defense Committee of the Iranian Majlis. The meeting was attended by Muhammad Ibrahim Mas'ud, minister of state; and Mohammad Hoseyn Tarimi, Iranian charge d'affaires to the Kingdom.

Comoros Foreign Minister Ends Visit to Kingdom

LD232338 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2255 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 23 Mar (SPA) — Said Madi Kafe, Comoros' Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, left Jeddah this evening following a 3-day visit to the Kingdom.

UAE

Minister of State Departs for Tunis Meeting

GF241212 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1005 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Mar (WAKH) — Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, left Abu Dhabi today for Tunis leading his country's delegation to the Arab League's 85th session scheduled to open in the Tunisian capital today.

Paper on U.S. Intentions To 'Provoke' Libya

GF240844 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0620 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 24 Mar (WAM) — Under the headline "Will History Repeat Itself," the UAE newspaper *AL-WAHDAH* says that despite the denial made by the White House on U.S. intentions to provoke [Libya], "the events prove the opposite. They confirm that the United States is serious in provoking Libya in order to justify its imminent aggression against Libyan territories under the pretext of the latter's support for terrorism, as the United States claims." The paper charges the United States with "wanting to drive the area into a new maze." The paper calls on the United States to realize that the entire Arab homeland will be assigned the duty of defending every inch of Arab territory and that "despite the painful conditions which the Arab homeland is passing through, the will of the Arabs will neither die nor be vanquished. Moreover, this plan which is designed to weaken and kill this Arab will will not pass."

The paper continues: "The Arabs aspire for peace, but they do not accept affronts. What the United States is doing opposite the Libyan coasts is a challenge to all Arabs and flagrant ignorance of all international laws." The paper expresses its belief that the U.S. decision to hold maneuvers in this region demonstrates "its hostile intentions toward this Arab country that refuses to let its dignity be affronted and that is not frightened by U.S. threats and fleets." In conclusion, the paper says editorially that "Libya will not stand idly by and knows how to defend itself." The paper recalls what happened last century when the U.S. fleet wrecked off the Libyan coast. The paper asks: "Will history repeat itself?"

U.S., Israel To Sign Military Equipment Storage Plan

GF230630 Doha QNA in Arabic 0615 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Mar (QNA) — Press reports published in Abu Dhabi today indicate that the United States and Israel will soon sign the implementation plan of the strategic agreement which authorizes the U.S. Army to store ammunition and military equipment in Israel to be used as emergency stores in the region. The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* quotes sources in Washington, which it describes as informed, as saying that "the purpose is to allow the United States to use this equipment in the event a war breaks out in the Middle East in which the United States is a party." The sources have said that Israel will be able to use these stores in case of emergency after receiving Washington's permission.

Further on Cairo Shooting of Israeli Fair Workers

19 Suspects Arrested

NC220820 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Egyptian authorities in Cairo have arrested 19 people suspected of involvement in the attack against four Israelis last Wednesday. Those arrested include two Lebanese, one Syrian, and one person from South Yemen.

2 Arrested at Cairo Airport

NC221103 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Egyptian paper *AL-JUMHURIYAH* reports today that two people have been arrested at Cairo Airport. Their description corresponds with that of the perpetrators of last Wednesday's attack, which left one Israeli dead and three others wounded. *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* has also published composite drawings of the criminals. Pictures of two of the accused indicate that they are the same people who assassinated Albert Atrakchi, the Israeli charge d'affairs in Cairo, in a similar attack in August 1985. A Nasirite organization calling itself the Egyptian Revolution claimed responsibility for both attacks.

Suspects Questioned

NC230918 Cairo MENA in English 0858 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — Prominence was given by the papers today to reports on the questioning by investigators of a large number of suspects who might have been involved in the attack on the four Israelis at Cairo International Fair. The suspects were arrested at Cairo airport, the port of Alexandria, port of Suez and Port Said, as well as Luxor.

Police Have 'No Firm Leads'

NC231009 Paris AFP in English 1001 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 23 (AFP) — Egyptian police have no firm leads in their efforts to track down a gang who carried out an anti-Israeli attack at the Cairo Trade Fair on Wednesday in which one person died, sources close to the investigation said Sunday.

Several hundred witnesses have been interviewed by police following the attack. A woman died and three other people were wounded when the gunmen opened fire on their car as they drove away from the fair. The sources said that there were several theories, including involvement of Palestinian hardliner Abu Nidal's group, but no firm leads. The attack was claimed by a group called Egypt's Revolution, which is violently opposed to the peace accord between Egypt and Israel.

Egyptian police believe this could be a cover for foreign extremist groups. Egypt's Revolution has claimed other attacks on Israelis, including the murder of an Israeli diplomat in Cairo last August.

Commentary Criticizes Attack

NC211640 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "The Peace Efforts Will Not Stop and the Culprits Will Not Escape Punishment"]

[Text] Egypt has denounced the incident in which a female worker at the Israeli pavilion in the Cairo International Fair was killed and three other employees were wounded on Wednesday near the fairgrounds. The authorities have declared that they will do all they can to pursue the culprits and to begin legal proceedings against them, commensurate with their illegal act.

A previously unknown organization, called Egypt's Revolution, has claimed responsibility for the criminal incident, despite its repulsive nature. However, in our opinion, this claim is an attempt to conceal the organization's true identity and purpose. Egypt denounces the savagery of this crime, characterized by treachery and despicableness, which is not in the nature of the Egyptian people, who respect the security of peaceful civilians. No individual, or organization in Egypt defends such crimes, which cannot exist in a free and democratic society that calls for peace all over the world, not only in this area.

Yesterday's meeting in Cairo between President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan, was a step on the way to the comprehensive peace that Egypt pursues. Yasir 'Arafat's forthcoming visit to Egypt represents another step on the same road. At a meeting 1 or 2 days ago, President Mubarak and PRC President Li Xiannian affirmed their determination to work to strengthen world peace, prevent wars, and strengthen justice in international relations.

Although there have been past attacks similar to the one against workers at the Israeli pavilion at the Cairo International Fair and although such incidents could take place at any time and in any place since terrorism has become an international epidemic, this incident had a wicked purpose. Despite the progress in Egypt and Israel's efforts to establish a model for what could be achieved through dialogue and persistence to establish peace, there is still sensitivity because of differences of opinion on issues pertaining to these efforts to establish peace and to end the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Whoever seeks to harm Egyptian-Israeli relations with such incidents actually futilely seeks to harm the peace efforts. Egypt has offered many martyrs for the sake of peace. People lost their lives as a result of terrorist operations by those who are against Egypt's means of establishing comprehensive peace in the area. Egypt realizes that it is following a difficult course in combining what are considered to be contradictions. On the basis of its cultural role and its view of the future, Egypt is adhering to both its international commitments on peace and also its pan-Arab commitments as a necessary basis for the achievement of this comprehensive peace.

Despite the difficulties that Egypt's leaders and people are shouldering in pursuing this course, no terrorist incident will make them turn away from the goal it has willingly adopted of establishing peace and justice. Egypt is eager to establish peace, security, and stability in the region and the world. The country wants to ensure that no incident contradicting these objectives should take place in its territory. Egypt is determined to pursue the criminals who are afraid of the establishment of peace and are trying to undermine it and who sought to impose on the Egyptian people a state of affairs that is inconsistent with their democracy, legality, and freedom. The culprits will not escape punishment.

Israeli Minister Target

NC231922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Egyptian newspaper *AL-MASA'* reports today that the gunmen who killed the Israeli Embassy employee in Cairo on Wednesday planned to assassinate the Israeli tourism minister. The paper adds that preliminary investigations have revealed that the Israeli minister visited his country's pavilion at the Cairo International Fair on the day of the shooting.

King Husayn Contacts Mubarak To Exchange Views

NC212130 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2100 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn of Jordan contacted President Husni Mubarak this evening to exchange views on a number of issues.

Further on 'Arafat Visit; Talks With Mubarak, Others

'Arafat Arrives in Cairo

NC221758 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Cairo from Khartoum tonight. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, met him at the airport.

In a statement upon his arrival, 'Arafat said: We are passing through an important and crucial period concerning the issues we are confronting and the challenges we are facing on the local, Arab, and international levels. This requires the Arab nation to face up to these challenges as one man, with a common stand.

He added: There are many basic issues that will be discussed with President Husni Mubarak and Egyptian officials, including Egypt's efforts in support of the Palestinian struggle, the current Arab conditions, the Gulf war and the grave dangers resulting from its escalation, in addition to international topics.

Asked about the meaning of his recent statement that the situation has reached a dead end, 'Arafat replied that he meant this regarding the United States, in light of "U.S. intransigence, the U.S. attempt to deny the Palestinian people their rights, including their right to self-determination, and the unlimited U.S. support for the Israeli arrogance and occupation."

'Arafat noted that there are differences between the Palestinian and U.S. viewpoints, observing that Jordan mediated — for which it is be thanked — between the Palestinians and the U.S. 'Arafat asserted that during his stay in Cairo he will meet with Marrack Goulding, the UN under secretary general, for talks on the Palestinian issue.

Concluding, 'Arafat explained that he recently made a long tour to discuss the issues facing the Arab nation. This tour took him to Turkey, Morocco, Romania, Yugoslavia, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Iraq.

UN's Goulding Arrives

NC222209 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1740 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — Marrack Goulding, UN under secretary general for political affairs, arrived in Cairo from Beirut tonight on board a private plane. Goulding currently is on a Middle East tour, which, so far, has taken him to Israel, Lebanon, and Egypt, where he discussed the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate for another 6 months, in addition to the latest regional developments. On Tuesday, Goulding met with Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

'Arafat Meets With Goulding

NC222218 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
2000 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat met with UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding this evening. Zuhdi al-Tarzi, PLO representative at the United Nations, attended the meeting. Goulding arrived in Cairo from Beirut this evening.

Mubarak Receives 'Arafat

NC230939 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0934 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat at the Republican Palace in Al-Qubbah this morning. Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Cairo last night.

Others Join Mubarak-'Arafat Talks

NC231159 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1132 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — The Palestinian delegation accompanying PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has joined the private talks being held by President Husni Mubarak and 'Arafat. The two men met for 90 minutes.

Dr Usamah al-Baz, first under secretary at the Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs, attended the talks on the Egyptian side. Representing the Palestinians were Juwayd al-Ghusayn and Jamal al-Surani, Executive Committee members; Hani al-Hasan, Fatah's Central Committee member; Al-Tayyib 'Abd al-Rahim, PLO representative in Cairo; and Sa'id Kamal and Zuhdi al-Qadrah, PNC members.

'Arafat Questioned After Meeting

NC231443 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1348 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — Following 3 hours of talks with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat said that they had discussed all aspects of the Palestinian issue, as well as the general Arab situation and the stand of his organization vis-a-vis Jordan. 'Arafat stated: I thanked President Mubarak for the efforts he has exerted in this regard.

Responding to a question, 'Arafat denied the existence of any deadlock between the PLO and Jordan. Asked about the Jordanian monarch's statement that asserted that a deadend had been reached, 'Arafat replied: I agree with King Husayn's affirmation that we have reached a deadend. This is due to U.S. obstinacy.

Replying to a question on whether the PLO can pursue the peace process on its own, 'Arafat said: No. He then asked: Who said that we can continue on our own? All we are saying is that agreements exist between us and Jordan to which we are both committed.

Asked about the formulas that he had previously proposed for peace, the Palestinian leader replied: We submitted three such formulas. Richard Murphy, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Middle East affairs, has stated that he did not receive these formula; however, I am certain that he has. The U.S. Administration must give us an official reply to these formulas. 'Arafat added that he is still waiting for this U.S. reply.

Responding to a question about the peace process and whether or not it has been suspended pending the receipt of this U.S. reply, 'Arafat reiterated that he is waiting for the United States to reply to his three formulas.

Asked about the future scenario of the peace process, 'Arafat replied: This is not simple. We have our own principles by which we abide. However, any future scenario should take place through the United Nations.

Asked to explain the meaning of his recent statement with regard to the PLO's readiness to effect rapproachment with Syria, 'Arafat said: I would like to establish the fact that meetings have taken place between Palestinian and Syrian officials.

In answer to a final question on whether there is hope for a restoration of relations between the PLO and Syria, 'Arafat stated: Such meetings should be followed up. The Palestinian leadership has decided to turn a new leaf with Syria.

'Arafat Meets With Al-Sharif

NC232050 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Minister of Information Safwat al-Sharif met this evening with a PLO delegation led by Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The session also was attended by Husayn 'Anan, chairman of the radio and television federation, and by other senior media officials. Al-Sharif opened the meeting by welcoming the members of the PLO delegation. He said that Egyptian media have always expressed the Egyptian people's support of the Palestinians in their just cause, and of the PLO as their legitimate representative.

'Arafat thanked the minister of information for the Egyptian media's position toward the Palestinian people. Talks then began. 'Arafat discussed the Palestinian stand, reviewing the current situation and explaining the PLO's strategy in light of the changes affecting the Palestinian issue. He praised Egypt's backing of the PLO, and stressed the importance of Egypt's contribution to Arab action, with particular emphasis on the promotion of the Palestinian issue. All other regional questions were discussed as well.

AL-JUMHURIYAH on Talks

NC210800 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Cairo *AL-JUMHURIYAH* declares that a resumption of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue with Egyptian participation represents the only way to reach a unified stand enabling the PLO participate in the peace process. The paper notes that there can be no peace without the Palestinians.

In its editorial today, the paper comments on Jordanian King Husayn's visit to Egypt yesterday and his talks with President Mubarak, saying that the visit emphasizes the significance of the pan-Arab dimension of Egypt's policy. Despite the difficulties it has been encountering, Egypt will neither shirk its pan-Arab responsibilities nor relinquish its role in the Arab arena.

The paper goes on to say that the Egyptian role is a leading one, particularly in the context of ongoing efforts to dissipate the clouds enveloping Palestinian-Jordanian relations. *AL-JUMHURIYAH* says that Egypt's role is to bridge the gap between the viewpoints of the two sides, taking into account each party's motives and stands.

In conclusion, the paper asserts that the current circumstances give rise to a considerable degree of optimism and hope that the crisis may be overcome. This conclusion may be drawn from King Husayn's assertions to the effect that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and that he is not seeking to exclude it. It also derives from the PLO's recent statement in which it asserted that the door of dialogue with Jordan has not been closed.

Mubarak Receives Soviet Parliamentary Delegation

NC240813 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0738 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — This morning at Al-Tahirah Palace, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received the Soviet delegation led by Pavel Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Chairman of the Georgian Republic Supreme Soviet.

Attending the meeting were People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub, Dr Usamah al-Baz, first undersecretary at the

Foreign Ministry and head of the President's Office for Political Affairs; Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the People's Assembly Foreign Relations Committee; and Aleksandr Belonogov, the Soviet ambassador in Cairo.

Mubarak Receives Message

NC240929 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0845 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak today received a written message from the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. This was stated by People's Assembly Speaker Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub following President Mubarak's meeting with members of the Soviet parliamentary delegation. He said that the delegation had conveyed the greetings of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and President Andrey Gromyko to President Mubarak and the Egyptian people. The delegation's leader had stressed the Soviet Union's enthusiasm for friendship between the two countries. He added that President Husni Mubarak had emphasized his desire to maintain this friendship and strengthen bilateral relations in all fields.

Dr al-Mahub said that an Egyptian economic delegation led by Dr Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economy and foreign trade, will leave for Moscow tomorrow to discuss economic relations between the two countries.

The head of the Soviet delegation also expressed his gratitude and said that he and the delegation were very pleased to have met with President Mubarak. He described the meeting as the best one held by the delegation during its stay in Cairo. In a statement after the meeting, he said that the delegation and President Mubarak had discussed various kinds of Soviet-Egyptian cooperation. He stated: We are looking toward new horizons of bilateral cooperation. He added that the delegation had been well received during its visit to Egypt and declared: We thank the Egyptian people and wish them all happiness, well-being, and prosperity.

Concluding his statement, he stressed that the delegation will leave Egypt with very favorable impressions. It will convey the greetings of the Egyptian people to the Soviet people.

The Soviet delegation is scheduled to leave Cairo tomorrow, Tuesday, at the end of its visit to Egypt. During the visit the delegation met with Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi; Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; and Dr Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food security.

Gilashvili Talks To Press

NC231836 Cairo MENA in English 1824 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, March 23 (MENA) — The deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, who is leading a parliamentary delegation, described today his visit to Cairo as successful and said there will be an exchange of senior officials visits between the two countries shortly. Speaking at a press conference today, the Soviet official said the Soviet side will hold talks tomorrow with Minister of Energy and Electricity Mahir Abazah on the Soviet Union's sharing in energy projects in Egypt.

He voiced his country's support for the Palestinian cause and its full backing of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He also said that the best way to settle the Middle East dispute will be through collective efforts exerted within an international conference. He affirmed that his country is ready to participate with the United States, Security Council members, and a full Palestinain representation to find a settlement to the Middle East problem.

Mubarak Receives West German Journalist Delegation

NC231108 Cairo MENA in English 1015 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak met for 90 minutes here today with a West German press delegation representing 25 daily and weekly newspapers in the Federal Republic of Germany. The president spoke to the delegation on Egypt's internal policy and its efforts for implementing economic development programs. He also expounded Egypt's foreign policy and its endeavours to realise permanent peace and secure stability for the peoples of the area.

The meeting was attended by Safwat al-Sharif, information minister, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the President's Office for Political Affairs and first undersecretary at the Foreign Ministry.

Omani Foreign Affairs Official Arrives for Visit

NC231907 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1844 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 23 mar (MENA) — Yusuf al-'Alwai, Oman's minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived in Cairo from Muscat tonight for a 1-day visit. In a statement, Al-'Alwawi said he would be meeting with President Husni Mubarak tomorrow to convey a verbal message from Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman. He also noted that he would hold talks and consultations with Egyptian officials to exchange views on questions of interest to both countries and to the Arab nation.

Received by Mubarak

NC240828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, at Al-Tahirah Palace today. The meeting was attended by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Omani ambassador in Cairo 'Abdallah al-Najjar. Al-'Alawi arrived in Cairo yesterday with a message for President Mubarak from Oman's Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id.

Mubarak Receives Message

NC241012 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0940 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 24 Mar (MENA) — President Husni Mubarak has received a verbal message from Oman's Sultan Qabus Ibn Sa'id concerning current developments in the Arab region, and the Gulf area in particular. This was stated by Yusuf al-'Alawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, following his meeting with President Mubarak today. He said that President Mubarak had asked him to convey a verbal message expressing Egypt's views on the various developments.

Al-'Alawi added: We believe that Egypt has an effective and major role to play in the current situation. Hence, we would like to know to what extent it can take action in connection with the current problems, particularly in the Gulf region.

Replying to a question on whether Middle East peace efforts had been discussed, the Omani minister said that the talks had indeed dealt with the peace efforts. He noted that Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat is in Cairo and that new efforts are in progress. He added that these efforts might reopen the way.

'Abd al-Majid on Terrorism, Relations With Libya

NC221523 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1410 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has reiterated that the objectives of Egyptian foreign policy are stability, a just comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and overall development in Egypt. Dr 'Abd al-Majid stressed the importance of the EC's role in contributing to a just, comprehensive peace in the area.

Today during his meeting with a delegation of visiting FRG journalists, Dr 'Abd al-Majid explained Egypt's efforts to give momentum to the peace process in the area. He pointed out that Egypt is the only country in the region whose political policy enables it to communicate with all concerned parties within and outside of the area.

Continuing, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister noted Egypt's role in reconciling Jordan and the Palestinians and in patching up their differences. He asserted that Egypt's efforts are motivated by the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, which constitutes the cornerstone of a peaceful settlement in the Middle East. Dr 'Abd al-Majid added: We expect that Yasir 'Arafat will visit Egypt soon to continue his contacts on this.

Touching on international terrorism, Dr 'Abd al-Majid expressed Egypt's denunciation and condemnation of all acts of terrorism, regardless of who is behind these acts, for they endanger the lives of civilians and innocent people. He noted that Egypt is quite prepared to cooperate with the international community to combat the wave of terrorism that menaces the security and peace of all countries.

During his meeting with the FRG journalists, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister affirmed that a just, lasting, and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian problem would greatly contribute to wiping out the roots of terrorism in the area. On the Iraq-Iran war, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt will not accept any infringment upon Iraq's sovereignty or that of the Gulf states.

Responding to a question on the relations between Egypt and Libya, Dr 'Abd al-Majid replied: We have no problems with the Libyan people. In fact, we have strong relations with them. But we do not approve of Al-Qadhdhafi's policy and of his interference in the domestic affairs of various countries.

Foreign Ministry Official Views Tabah Talks

NC221401 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1305 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 22 Mar (MENA) — A responsible source at the Foreign Ministry has stated that Egypt believes that it is necessary to expedite an agreement on all points related to the arbitral compromise in order to find a solution to the Tabah issue. The source hoped that an agreement on all the disputed topics would be reached during the coming round of talks to be held in Herzliyya on Wednesday. Once such an agreement is reached, then only the general formulation of the compromise would be left unresolved. This formulation, he added, should not take more than a single round of talks.

According to this source, the disputed issues pertain to the question to be addressed before the arbitrators, the proceedings of the actual arbitration, and the implementation of the arbitrators' verdict. He noted that there are differences between Egypt and Israel with regard to all of these points. He also affirmed that Egypt adheres to its positions on these points completely. Counselor Amin al-Mahdi, deputy chief of the Council of State, is scheduled to take part in the forthcoming round of talks.

Badr Discusses Central Security Forces, Prisoners

NC231148 Cairo MENA in English 1135 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — Only a handful of prisoners fled from Turah jail during the recent riots, Interior Minister Major General Zaki Badr affirmed. This was stated at a meeting of the ruling NDP last night.

The runaway prisoners included two Britons who arrived in London. Contacts are underway on their extradition to the Egyptian authorities, the minister added. He denied rumours that among the prisoners were some politicians.

He pointed out that the Central Security Forces resumed their guarding tasks in Egypt. The minister affirmed that the authorities deal with the opposition within the context of democracy, which provides for freedom of expression.

Foreign Minister al-Majid To Visit SFRY, Italy

NC231931 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, will deliver a message from President Muhammad Husni Mubarak to Yugoslav President Radovan Vlajkovic on Wednesday. Upon arrival in Belgrade, 'Abd al-Majid will hold talks with Yugoslav Government officials on the Nonaligned Movement and ways of promoting it. His discussions will be in preparation for the meeting of foreign ministers from the nonaligned states, which will take place in New Delhi on 16 April. This conference will be followed by September's nonaligned summit in Zimbabwe.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met today with the Yugoslav ambassador in Cairo for a review of bilateral relations and methods of advancing them in various fields. After visiting Yugoslavia, the foreign minister will go to Italy for talks with the Italian prime minister and foreign minister. They will examine bilateral ties, developments in the Middle East, and the role that Europe and the nonaligned states can play in giving an impetus to the regional peace process.

Finance Minister Hamid Leaves for Jordan

NC210807 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0720 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Finance Minister Dr Salah Hamid, accompanied by Dr 'Irfan Shafi'i, first under secretary of the ministry of planning and international cooperation, left Cairo for Amman this morning on a 4-day visit to Jordan. The Egyptian minister will hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on strengthening bilateral trade and economic cooperation.

PRC 'Willingness' To Meet Military Needs

GF221354 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 21 Mar 86 p 1

[Text] Cairo — *AL-BAYAN* has learned that the talks between Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and the PRC president in the past 2 days dealt with the PRC's supplying Egypt with some of its military requirements and assisting in the manufacture of some types of heavy artillery, missiles, and spare parts for weapons and planes. *AL-BAYAN* has learned from reliable sources that the PRC has shown understanding and a great willingness to supply all of Egypt's military requirements.

Commander of French Naval Forces Ends Visit

NC211828 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1750 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 21 Mar (MENA) — Admiral Yves Leonardth, commander of the French Naval forces, and the delegation accompanying him left Cairo this afternoon for Marseilles, following a 5-day visit to Egypt. During his stay, Admiral Leonardth met with Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production; Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi, chief of staff of the Armed Forces; and Vice-Admiral 'Ali Jad, commander of the Egyptian naval forces. They discussed cooperation between the two countries, as well as bilateral relations.

Opposition Party Leaders Form Committee

NC231448 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Cairo, 23 Mar (MENA) — The leaders of the Socialist Liberal Party, the National Progressive Unionist Grouping, the Socialist Labor Party, and the Ummah and New Wafd parties met today at Al-Ummah Party headquarters. Those taking part decided to form a committee of their representatives, who will prepare a draft plan for the amendment of the laws on political rights and local council elections, and the alteration of the local government system.

This body is scheduled to hold its first meeting at new Wafd headqaurters on Saturday. The ad hoc committee is expected to present a progress report at another gathering of party leaders, which will take place next month at the headquarters of the Socialist Liberal Party.

Turkish Prime Minister Ozal Arrives in Baghdad

JN211701 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1650 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Mar (INA) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal arrived in Baghdad this evening on a visit to Iraq that will last several days. He was received by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; several ministers, and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

In a statement to INA, the Turkish prime minister said his visit to Iraq is aimed at consolidating and promoting bilateral relations, particularly in the economic and trade spheres, and at discussing the Iraq-Iran war developments.

The prime minister's delegation comprises Finance and Customs Minister Ahmet Alptemocin, the Finance and Foreign Ministry under secretaries, and the governor of the Turkish Central Bank.

Official Talks Begin 22 March

JN221637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Official talks between Iraq and Turkey began here this evening. Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and frist deputy prime minister, chaired the Iraqi side while Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal chaired the Turkish side.

The talks dealt with bilateral economic, trade, and technical relations and ways of promoting them, as well as Iraq- Iran war developments.

The talks were attended by Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, oil minister and head of the Iraqi delegation to the Iraqi-Turkish joint committee; and Ahmet Alptemocin, Turkish finance and customs minister.

At the end of the round of talks Taha Yasin Ramadan and Turgut Ozal held a closed meeting during which they discussed economic and trade relations and ways of promoting them in serving the two countries' mutual interests.

Received by Saddam Husyan

JN221215 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1144 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn met with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal today. They discussed the bilateral strong ties and the prospects for promoting them in all fields. They also touched on the Iraq-Iran war and its threat to peace and stability in the region.

The meeting was attended by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Ahmet Alptemocin, Turkish finance and customs minister; the president's secretary; the Iraqi ambassador in Ankara; and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

Received by Ramadan

JN221545 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met here at noon today with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. The two sides reviewed bilateral relations and expressed satisfaction with their continued development as well as their desire to seek new fields for expanding trade and promoting economic cooperation in serving their mutual interests. They also discussed ways of promoting relations in the trade and economic spheres now and in the future.

On the Iraqi side the meeting was attended by Hasan 'Ali, RCC member and trade minister; Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, oil minister and head of the Iraqi delegation to the Iraqi- Turkish joint committee. On the Turkish side the meeting was attended by Ahmet Alptemocin, finance and customs minister and head of the Turkish delegation to the joint committee, the Turkish Central Bank governor, the prime minister's adviser, and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

Further Talks With Ramadan

JN231827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1710 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met with Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal here today. They discussed bilateral economic and trade relations and reviewed ways of developing these relations to serve their joint interests. The meeting was attended by Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad al-'Uraybi, Turkish Finance and Customs Minister Ahmet Alptemocin, the Iraqi ambassador in Ankara, and the Turkish ambassador in Baghdad.

Gives Interview to Paper

JN240852 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0815 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Mar (INA) — Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal has held Iran responsible for the prolongation of the war in view of the impossible conditions it sets for ending it. He said that Iran's conditions obstruct any role for the attainment of a satisfactory peaceful solution to the war. In an interview with *AL-JUMHURIYAH* here today Ozal added that Turkey sincerely wishes a peaceful solution to the war that will satisfy the two parties in this war which is exhausting the two warring countries' humane and economic potentialities.

Turgut Ozal said that his country does not export military hardware to Iran, stressing that what is being sent consists of spare parts of electronic equipment which are being sent by air. He also stressed that military hardware sent to Iran is being received through its southern coasts.

Speaking about Iraqi-Turkish relations, Turgut Ozal said that the second oil pipeline will be completed next year and that his current visit to Baghdad is an expression of the good neighborliness and cooperation that exist between the two countries. He added that trade exchange in 1985 amounted to $2,000 million.

Reaction to UN Security Council 21 March Statement

Tariq 'Aziz Sends Memorandum

JN231613 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has sent the following memorandum to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar:

Your Excellency, after the Iraqi Government has taken cognizance of the statement issued by the UN Security Council on 21 March 1986, I am honored to remind you of the letter sent by Iraq's permanent UN representative in New York on 17 March 1986 in which he urged the Security Council to be fully aware of the sensitivity of the situation, which requires that no unbalanced measure be taken aborting the opportunity of allowing the responsible international peace campaign to succeed and permitting the Iranian regime to legitimize its selective [intiqa'i] method with the aim of continuing the war.

The Iraqi Government regrets to say that the Security Council's statement obviously lacks the required balance. The most obvious point in this regard is that the statement completely fails to refer to the UN Charter, which constitutes the current world constitution for international relations. This greatly weakens the effect of the rest of the statement's provisions, which stress a peaceful settlement of the dispute, especially since the council did not clearly name the side which insists on continuing the war, as though this side is not known to the council. Furthermore, there is a clear difference between the stands of both sides on Resolution 582 of 1986, something which again expresses the council's hesitation in naming the side which rejected the above resolution, namely, Iran.

The lack of balance in the statement is shown by the fact that the council did not sincerely express the realities of the situation when it called on both sides to respect the territorial integrity of all states while expressing concern over threats to expand the conflict to include other states in the region. This call should have been directed at the side which is threatening other states, the same side which insists on continuing the war, which rejects UN Security Council authority, and which refuses to implement Resolution 582 of 1986.

It is the Iranian regime which does not respect the sovereignty of the region's states and which brazenly continues its threats against these states and its interference in their internal affairs. The council's failure to recognize this fact, which is obvious to everyone, cannot be justified, especially since the council and the General Secretariat are fully aware of this. We also are aware that international public opinion cannot ignore this fact, given the following passage from the statement issued by the GCC ministers' 18th session held in Riyadh on 1-2 March 1986:

The GCC states have always adhered to ties of good neighborliness based on mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs. However, the Iranian threats have created an atmosphere of tension. Therefore, the GCC calls on Iran to desist from its threats which contribute toward undermining the security and peace of the region.

The Security Council's statement ignores in an intolerable manner the Iranian invasion of Iraqi territory and the Iranian forces' repeated offensives with the aim of threatening the Iraqi people and ending their freedom and independence. The council completely ignores the backward, blindly fanatic, and barbaric methods which the Iranian regime is using in its destructive, expansionist war against a country which is one-third the size of Iran in both territory and population.

There are some other facts which we cannot ignore, namely, that certain international sides shedding crocodile tears over international agreements are themselves supplying the barbarous Iranian regime with the means of evil and aggression — weapons, ammunition, spare parts, and military hardware — some of them are UN Security Council members. The time will come when we will reveal their names. Their despicable cooperation with the Iranian regime means complicity with it in threatening peace and security in the region in exchange for material gain, something which contradicts their responsiblity of preserving international peace and security in accordance with membership on the Security Council.

The Iraqi Government is fully aware that some sides which were urged to issue the aforementioned statement on the pretext of respecting the 1925 Geneva Protocol act in accordance with motives which have nothing to do with the facts of the Iraq-Iran conflict. The Iraqi Government does not want to get into details about the several discrepancies in the report of the UN secretary general's mission, Document No 17922-S, regarding the mission's performance of its task, its violations of the limits of its task, or the UN Security Council's violation of limits of objectivity regarding this subject so that Iraq will not be dragged into the Iranian regime's plan to discuss parts of the conflict.

Iraq, whose contribution to human civilization and values is well known, will never allow a barbaric force to invade its homeland and deprive it of its sovereignty and freedom. Iraq is also determined to crush the barbaric invaders. It will never forget Hulagu [Mongol invader] who destroyed its great capital, Baghdad, killed its people, and burned its libraries and universities. Khomeyni, representing fanatic ideas and bloodthirstiness and killing and destruction, is another Hulagu.

Morover, among the basic points which we cannot ignore is the timing of the UN Security Council's statement. It seems that while the Iraqi forces are achieving decisive successes over the barbaric aggressors and invaders, the objective of this statement is to encourage these barbarians to continue their aggression and threats against security and stability in the region. Once again, we strongly warn against unjustified attempts, which are dishonest, to focus on sub-issues stemming from the conflict at a time when the UN Security Council and the United Nations should exert all efforts to stop the aggression and to force the aggressor to accept peace and to abide by the UN Charter, which is the highest document mankind has agreed on in the contemporary age.

Finally, I should remind you that I have announced before the UN Security Council on 18 February 1986 that Iraq will not accept any efforts not dealing clearly with ending the war and that it will not contribute to these efforts or assume any responsibility toward them. In this regard and in order to make the stand clear in the future regarding the way which the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly assume their responsibilities in accordance with the UN Charter, I should draw your attention to the fact that what was included in the last paragraph of the UN Security Council statement, on how the two sides showed readiness to cooperate with the UN secretary general, was not very accurate because Iran, which insists on the war, has shown only conditional readiness represented by cooperation with the UN secretary general in very limited areas —the same areas enabling it to continue its war and aggression as mentioned clearly in its foreign minister's statement, Document No 17864-S.

Iraq's stand is contrary to this. It has shown complete readiness to cooperate with the UN Security Council and the UN General Assembly to implement all, we stress all, international laws and conventiions, foremost being the UN Charter, for the sake of a just and honorable peace, which is the lofty objective of all mankind.

[Signed] Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, 23 March 1986

Diplomat Criticizes Statement

JN220922 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The UN Security Council yesterday issued a statement condemning Iraq for using internationally banned chemical weapons and denouncing the continuation of the war between Iraq and Iran. An Iraqi diplomat criticized the statement because it did not clearly hold Iran responsible for the continuation of the war and did not refer to Iranian threats to expand the war in the Gulf region. The Iraqi diplomat reaffirmed that the Iraqi forces will not hesitate to employ all means to confront Iranian aggression.

Tehran has not yet commented on the Security Council's statement.

Official circles at the United Nations fear that Iran will also resort to using such chemical weapons.

Tariq 'Aziz Sends Message to Arab League's Klibi

JN231545 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz has sent the following memorandum to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi:

The Arab League secretary general, Tunis. At a time when Arab public opinion is showing great interest in the Arab League Council's forthcoming meeting in Tunis on 24 March and as it expects the meeting to take certain positions and measures to confront the dangerous threats to which the Arab homeland is being exposed, particularly the Iranian aggression against Iraq —an aggression which has been continuing for 6 years and which is represented by the occupation of new Iraqi national territories, a fact requiring Arab countries to face up to their responsibilities to implement their pan-Arab obligations stipulated in conventions and charters, especially in the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact —we were surprised by the Syrian foreign minister's message to you, a message full of exposed, cheap lies and allegations and whose aims and purposes are exposed.

The timing of the message exposes its main objective, namely, the attempt to distract the Arab League's attention from its responsibilities and basic duties and to cover up for the Syrian Government's shameful stand on the Iranian aggression against Iraq, as well as its shameful alliance with the aggression against Iraq, and its shameful alliance with the aggressor against a fraternal Arab country and a member of the Arab League. This is confirmed by the Syrian foreign minister's visit to Tehran several days after sending his message. This means that this message was no more than an entry visa to Tehran.

The visit by an Arab foreign minister to a foreign country which is continuing to launch aggression against an Arab country, which is a member of the Arab League, and his statements on the close relations with that aggressor country are considered a provocation of national sentiments and a flagrant challenge to all Arab values and principles. It is obvious that the Syrian foreign munister has tried to make his message a coverup and a justification for that condemned visit.

The Syrian people, who heartily support Iraq in its honorable confrontation of the Iranian aggression, are aware that Iraq, whose citizens' blood has mixed with Syrian citizens' blood in defending Syria and Palestine, will never try to harm Syria or Syrian citizens. Syrian citizens know better than anyone else the massacres committed by the Syrian regime against Syrian citizens in many Syrian cities in order to carry out its suspected policies and objectives.

What drew our attention were the contents of the Syrian foreign minister's message regarding efforts to purify the Arab atmosphere and the Arab League Charter while everyone agrees that the Syrian regime is mainly responsible for poisoning the Arab atmosphere and destroying Arab solidarity with its actions which openly violate the Arab League Charter and the Collective Arab Defense Pact —actions represented by its shameful aggression against the Palestinian Arab people, its behavior in Lebanon, and by its suspected alliance with Iran against Iraq.

Finally, if the Syrian foreign minister means what he says in his message about the Arab League Charter, Iraq proposes starting an objective and constructive dialogue during the Arab League's forthcoming meeting to define the obligations of every side toward the Arab League Charter, the Collective Arab Defense Pact, and the solidarity charter and abiding by the Arab decision made during the meeting.

[Signed] Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister

Baghdad, 20 March, 1986

Leaves for Tunis Meeting

JN231716 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1652 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Baghdad for Tunis today to lead the Iraqi delegation at the meetings of the 85th session of the Arab League Council beginning tomorrow.

Saddam Husayn Congratulates France's Jacques Chirac

JN211257 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 21 Mar 86

["Text" of cable of congratulations from President Saddam Husayn to French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac —date not given]

[Text] Your Excellency Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. It gives me pleasure to send to you the warmest congratulations and best wishes on the occasion of your assumption of the French premiership. It also gives me pleasure on this occasion to affirm to you our concern about bolstering and promoting the existing bilateral relations of friendship and cooperation —the foundations of which you personally had a prominent role in.

We are deeply convinced that these relations, built on confidence, mutual respect, and common benefit, serve our peoples' essential interests and the issues of peace and constructive cooperation regarding the world and our region in particular. With best wishes for success in your mission.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the Republic of Iraq

Saddam Husayn Receives Call From YAR President

JN211858 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Mar (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received a telephone call from his brother YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih today. President Salih stressed the YAR's support, both people's and government's, for Iraq in its just confrontation of the Iranian enemy.

President Saddam Husayn reassured his brother President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih about the firmness of the Iraqi front, thanking him for the YAR's pan-Arab stand on Iraq, which proves the genuineness of the Arab people in the YAR.

PDRY Envoy Conveys Message to President Husayn

GF221828 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Brother Ahmad 'Ali Maysari, PDRY ambassador in Baghdad, has delivered a written message from Brother Engineer Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the YSP Political Bureau and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, addressed to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

This took place during the ambassador's meeting with Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Two Citizens Pardoned by Husayn Hold Interview

JN230754 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2025 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Iraqi television this evening interviewed two Iraqi citizens who showed repentance for their affiliation to parties which are hostile to Iraq's course and revolution. The two citizens were pardoned by President Saddam Husayn.

Muhammad Hasan Muhammad 'Ali Khayr al-Din, born in 1946 and resident of Al-Tarbiyah quarter in Baghdad said that he left Iraq in 1979 to study in France. He said that while visiting Syria he joined a group which is hostile to Iraq.

He added: I carried out activities during my stay in Syria, France, and other European countries. I used to persuade others abroad to join the group. Many refused out of love for the homeland, especially since they realized that the organizations which are hostile to Iraq are connected to hostile countries such as Iran, Syria, and Libya. He stressed that the organizations which are hostile to Iraq and which operate under the cover of religion carry out sabotage operations inside and outside Iraq every time Iraq scores any victory against the Iranian forces. He added that the objective for carrying out criminal acts outside Iraq, and namely in the Gulf countries and France is that these organizations believe that through their terrorist acts they can influence these countries' stands toward Iraq and have them improve their relations with Iran. He said that the common objective of these organizations is hostility toward Iraq and the attempt to harm its security and stability and that the members of these organizations are being trained in camps and special schools in Syria, Libya, and Iran. He also said that the members of these organizations are constantly being assisted by the organs of the Syrian and Libyan regimes in addition to receiving support from the Iranain regime.

Fawzi Hadi Hamzah, born in 1950 and a resident of Al-Kazimiyah, said that he left Iraq for Egypt in 1976 and from there he left for Libya, then to Abu Dhabi and France to pursue his studies.

He said that he visited Syria several times, and that he had left for France following a long stay in the UAE. He said that elements hostile to Iraq contacted him in Paris. He added: I had been deceived because I used to believe that the Iranian regime was governing in accordance to Islamic law. I can confirm that real men of religion in Iran now oppose Khomeyni's regime and that they are persecuted by this regime which falsely claims that it is ruling in accordance with Islamic law.

The two citizens thanked President Saddam Husayn for pardoning them and allowing them to live with their families and their friends.

Commander Cables Saddam Husayn on Panjwin Battle

JN211949 Baghdad INA in Arabci 1910 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Mar (INA) — A high-ranking Iraqi military commander has said that the Iraqi forces' destruction of the

Iranian regime's forces in Panjwin today is an extension of their destruction in eastern Chuwartah.

In a cable he sent to President Saddam Husayn tonight, Special Forces Staff Lieutenant General 'Abd al-Karim Al-Khazraji, commander of the I Army Corps, added that the Iraqi forces proceeded toward their set targets in order to liberate the (Taryar) mountain and the important strategic positions in the Panjwin sector and managed to liberate them after tearing up enemy troops and turning them into mutilated corpses littering mountains and valleys.

He indicated that the Armed Forces, supported by lightly equipped regiments and volunteers from the sons of our Kurdish people, vied with one another for the attainment of their targets and purged Iraq's sacred land of the filth of the convetous and grudge bearers. He concluded by saying that the Iraqi Armed Forces are awaiting orders to move and crush the Iranian forces everywhere.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iran

4 Northern Attacks Repulsed

JN231642 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1628 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces crushed four Iranian attacks on three mountain peaks in the northern sector last night and at dawn today. The peaks were recently purged of Iranian forces. A military spokesman told INA that the first attack occurred at 0030 today [2130 GMT on 22 March] against Peaks 1,790 and 1,774. Later, the enemy made two more attacks on the same peaks. The spokesman also said that the enemy launched an attack against Peak 1,412 at dawn today. He added that forces from the Republican Guard led by the Al-Siddiq Forces confronted the Iranian attacks and inflicted heavy losses on them, killing some and forcing the rest to flee. The land was preserved for its people.

Further Attacks Repulsed

JN230827 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[By Salah Mahdi al-'Askari]

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — The Iraqi forces in the I Army Corps sector have fortified their defensive positions in the Panjwin mountain heights which were liberated the day before yesterday. The Iraqi forces in the I Army Corps sector in the Panjwin area last night destroyed two Iranian attacks on the 1st column, which liberated vantage point 1,625, and wiped out all the attacking Iranian force. None of them managed to approach the liberated Iraqi positions. The 3d column also crushed another Iranian attack and wiped out enemy forces. None escaped death. The Iraqi artillery yesterday destroyed and burned an Iranian column consisting of 20 vehicles loaded with ammunition, personnel, and equipment deep inside Iran. Iraq's forward observation posts saw flames and dense columns of smoke rising from this column.

Iranian F-5 Downed

JN221808 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1802 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — Iraqi ground resistance shot down an Iranian F-5 plane over the VII Army Corps front today. A military spokesman here today said that two Iranian planes tried to violate our international borders over the VII Army Corps southern sector at 1455 [1155 GMT] today. Our ground resistance intercepted them, shooting down one of them while the other fled.

2d Iranian F-5 Downed

JN221841 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1831 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful. With God's help we continue to score victories while the frustrated aggressors are proceeding on the raod to collapse and defeat. Every time they try to harm this patient and steadfast country, they face God's wrath and complete loss. Another two enemy planes tried to violate our international borders over the VII Army Corps sector. The heroic men of our ground resistance intercepted them, shooting down one of them, an F-5 plane at 1636 [1336 GMT] today. Thus, our valiant men shot down two enemy planes today. May God bless them and guide their footsteps on the path of victory.

[Dated] 22 March 1986

'Large' Maritime Target Hit

JN222051 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2040 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Let the charlatans who are crouching in the abyss of shame and humiliation know that the just Iraqi blows will be dealt to them round the clock and anywhere they may be as a reward for the harm they did to great Iraq, the land of good, amity, and peace. Continuing to tighten the siege on all the resources the enemy uses for its evil designs, the brave men of the sea dealt an accurate and effective blow to a large maritime target near the Iranian coast at 1930 [1630 GMT] today. After carrying out their duty, the brave men of the Navy safely returned to base, protected by God.

[Dated] 22 March 1986

Maritime Target Hit 23 March

JN232104 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2054 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The brave eagles of the air have performed another heroic deed today while destroying enemy supplies and resources. At 2200 [1900 GMT] today, they carried out a successful raid against a large maritime target off the Iranian coast, dealing it an accurate, effective hit. Our eagles returned to the homeland with their planes, protected by God.

[Dated] 23 March 1986

Tanker Fire Under Control

GF240608 Manama GULF DAILY NEWS in English 24 Mar 86 p 1

[Excerpt] Salvage tugs were last night towing the devastated supertanker *Atlanticos* away from Khark Island as fast as possible following a series of Iraqi air raids on the beleaguered terminal.

A salvage source in the Gulf said Khark was raided three times on Saturday night as firefighters attempted to douse the blaze which had raged on the 260,000 tonne vessel since Thursday.

By early yesterday the worst of the fire was under control.

"We wanted to get out of there as soon as we could...it's a bit hot," said a local salvage source.

He said he expected the tanker to be towed to a neutral Gulf port, probably Dubai.

Iranian Raid on Steel Mill Denied

JN221133 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1113 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 22 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that the Iranians bombed a steel mill in Al-'Amarah in southern Iraq. The spokesman told INA that the Iranians are exposing their own lies because the whole world knows that there are no steel mills in Al-'Amarah.

Iranian Bombing Claims Ridiculed

JN231332 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1302 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military source has refuted the Iranian rulers' claim that they have bombed a naval base they called the Al-Bihar base in which they say there are Iraqi concentrations. The source told INA that it is well known that Al-Bihar is a small village surrounded by palm trees and that its people raise and breed cattle. No ships can dock there, there is no place for guns, and its lanes cannot accomodate vehicles.

The source noted that the Iraqi Defense Ministry's Political Guidance Department has organized a visit to the village by reporters in order to show them the clay houses of the villages which Rafsanjani said were a naval base and which he claimed to have shelled with missiles.

The Iraqi military source ridiculed the stupidity and charlatanism of the Iranian rulers and said: Thank God, our enemies cannot differentiate between a naval base and a stable for animals.

Spokesman Denies Plane Downed

JN232008 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Mar (INA) — An Iraqi military spokesman has denied that Iran shot down an Iraqi plane in the Baneh region in the northern sector last Friday. The spokesman told INA this evening that all Iraqi planes returned safely to base that day.

Communique No 2,157

JN211557 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,157 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 March 1986]

[Excerpt] O proud Iraqis, following the great victories scored by the heroic I Army Corps soldiers who drove the enemy back in disgrace, our forces in this valiant Army Corps continued to utilize the great victory by launching a sweeping offensive against tyrannical enemy remnants at some border vantage points in the Panjwin area in which the enemy has established a foothold since 1983. The fierce lions of the valiant Al-Siddiq Forces, supported by the intensive shelling of our capable artillery and brave Kurdish fighters, dashed to climb these mountain peaks under heavy fire in four brave columns and a fifth decoy column. After a fierce battle, the men managed to wipe out the enemy and rid the peaks of their filth, thus restoring their true face to these Iraqi peaks. Accordingly, our forces completely purged vantage points 1,625, 1848, 1,774, 1,881, 1,790, and 1,364 after killing a large number of enemy personnel and capturing scores of others. Thus, the land returned to its owners and the Iraqi banner was hoisted over the immortal mountains. Your enemy, O glorious Iraqis, was driven back and suffered an abject defeat, leaving its dead in the battlefield. The situation was settled in favor of our triumphant forces. Following this spectacular victory, the entire Panjwin basin has been placed under the absolute protection and supervision of our forces.

The men who planned this epic and led our forces along the paths of victory toward the peak of glory are: 1) Special Forces Staff Lieutenant General Nazir 'Abd al-Karim al-Khazraji, commander of the heroic I Army Corps; 2) Special Forces Staff Brigadier General Kamil Sajit 'Aziz, commander of the heroic Al-Siddiq Forces; 3) Staff Brigadier General Nasir Sa'id Tawfiq, commander of the 4th column; 4) Special Forces Brigadier General 'Ali Husayn Miz'il, commander of the 2d column; 5) Colonel Hamid Hasan Khalaf, commander of the artillery corps; 6) Special Forces Lieutenant Colonel Zaki Khattab Fad'am, command of the 1st column; 7) Lietenant Colonel Ahmad Muhammad Rashid, commander of the 3d column; and 8) fighter Sabir al-Surji, commander of the decoy column.

This is how those who seek glory should proceed. We pledge to rub the noses of the Khomeyniites in the mud of defeat everywhere. We will turn their destiny into a lesson and an example to anyone who tries to undermine the peoples' security and sovereignty. Long live the people; long live the leader; long live the Army. God is great; ignominy to the enemy.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 March 1986

Communique No 2,158

JN211730 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,158 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 21 March 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our triumphant forces continue their combat activities in all sectors, imposing their absolute control on the operational theaters and inflicting massive losses on enemy personnel, weaponry, and equipment.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. The valiant Al-Rashid and northern columns continued to engage the enemy with a stream of continuous, heavy fire day and night. Supported by our Air Force, artillery, helicopter gunships, and Navy, our forces inflicted massive losses on enemy forces in the narrow strip of the Al-Faw peninsula. Our forces on this front are asserting their overwhelming superiorty over the enemy. They are very accurately carrying out the set plans aimed at purging the land and destroying the enemy.

2. Our heroic Air Force will continue to be a sword brandished in the face of the covetous invaders. The valiant eagles are determined not to allow the enemy any breathing room or facility which may serve its hostile designs. Our Air Force carried out the following missions:

a. The brave eagles carried out 168 combat missions against the defeated enemy remnants, inflicting massive losses.

b. At 0720 [0420 GMT] today our planes carried two raids on a bridge used by infantry and another used by vehicles which the enemy erected on the Karun River to replace the bridges our Air Force had destroyed earlier. The brave eagles destroyed them both and returned safely and triumphantly to the homeland in God's care and protection, proud of their great accomplishments.

3. The brave cavaliers of the helicopter gunships carried out 91 combat sorties during which they destroyed enemy weapons and equipment and wiped out several troop concentrations. They returned safely to base.

4. Our brave units in the III Army Corps sector east of al-Basrah pounded enemy positions opposite them and destroyed five infantry positions, killing or wounding their occupants. An ambulance was seen evacuating enemy losses. One vehicle, one single-barrelled machinegun emplacement, and one medium-sized machinegun emplacement were also destroyed.

5. The forces of evil and aggression shelled the city of Al-'Uzayr, the district of Al-Qurnah, and the suburbs of Khanaqin, Mandali, and Khurmal with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 21 March 1986

Communique No 2,159

JN221750 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Communique No 2,159 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 22 March 1986]

[Excerpt] The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. On the VII Army Corps front: The heroic fighters of the Al-Rashid and northern columns continue to pour their hellish fire on enemy remnants who are trapped in the narrow strip of the Al-Faw peninsula. Our forces on this front inflicted heavy losses in life, weapons, military hardware, equipment on the aggressors, transforming the ground under their feet into hell. Confusion and defeatism is spreading among enemy ranks.

2. To make the despotic Iranian rulers understand that their aggression against our country will make them lose everything and will only bring them destruction, shame, and humiliation; to make these despots understand the meaning of Iraqi air superiority and the true meaning of its feats; and to perpetuate the rejoicing of our masses in their Armed Forces' victories, our giant Air Force assumes the responsibility of completely depriving the charlatan regime of any vital facility and the possibility of prolonging the policy of war. Our zealous eagles will continue to roam over Iran daily, wiping out any targets that help the Khomeyniites commit crimes. At 1515 today, a group of our planes carried out a surprise and devastating raid on the large (Narmin) power station in the (?veyseh) area northeast of Ahvaz with capacity of 1,260 megawatts. With a volley of their missiles, our eagles completely destroyed the station, leaving columns of smoke and flames spiraling from its debris. They safely returned with their planes to base. Iranian rulers, these are the courageous deeds of the Air Force. They are the best present to you, O bats of the night. We will continue to stalk you everywhere and at all times until we eradicate your evils and make you curse the moment you became involved in the aggression against Iraq.

Congratulations to our people and to our Air Force — commanders, eagles, officers, and other ranks. We seek success from God and He is the one who assists us.

3. The staunch eagles of the air continue their air strikes against enemy troop concentrations, weapons, and communications lines, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy in 150 combat missions they carried out today. After carrying out all these missions, they safely returned with their planes to base, praise be to God.

4. The brave helicopter gunship knights continuously and effectively pursue their combat sorties to inflict further losses on the

enemy. They carried out 61 combat sorties today after which they safely returned to base, protected by God.

5. Dealing intensive blows to areas where the enemy forces are present opposite our positions in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah, our fighters killed three enemy soldiers, destroyed one infantry position whose occupants were killed, one medium-caliber machinegun, one infantry position, and a machinegun position.

6. The despotic Khomeyniites shelled the Khanaqin and Mandali environs and the environs of the (Darbandikhan) District with long-range artillery.

7. Two enemy planes violated our international borders at 1146 today having as their target the residential areas in the Maysan Governorate. As a result of the incident, one elementary school was damaged, six civilians were wounded, and an 11-year-old schoolboy was martyred. While we ask God to have mercy on our martyr and wish a speedy recovery for our wounded, we tell the Iranian rulers that vileness is one of the most prominent traits of cowards. We shall avenge our martyr with God's help.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 22 March 1986

King Husayn, Delegation Return From Cairo

JN201829 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] His Majesty King Husayn returned to the homeland this evening after a working visit of several hours to Egypt. The king was received by His Royal Highness Prince Muhammad, his majesty the king's personal representative; His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan; His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, the chief chamberlain; the deputy Senate president; the ministers; a number of senior officials; and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

Returning with the king were Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim; Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General Zayd ibn Shakir, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri.

'No Breakthroughs' With PLO

JN220735 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 22 Mar 86 p 1

[By Salamih B. Ni'mat with agency dispatches]

[Text] Amman — A senior Jordanian official said on Friday that there was no change in Jordan's position vis-a-vis the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) following Jordanian- Egyptian summit talks in Cairo on Thursday.

The official said that "nothing exceptional" was reached during the Cairo talks between His Majesty King Husayn and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and that the talks focused on ways to "unify Arab ranks."

"There are no breakthroughs regarding the PLO," the official told the *JORDAN TIMES* in a telephone interview. "Our position is very clear. There have been no changes."

The official said he was not aware of any connection between King Husayn's talks in Cairo and the reportedly planned visit to Cairo on Saturday by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. "He (Mr. 'Arafat) goes there regularly ... it has nothing to do with our talks in Egypt," said the official.

The King was quoted as saying on Thursday that efforts for finding a just and durable settlement for the Middle East problem were a dead end for the time being.

"We have had a very serious setback and reached a dead end, so to speak, for the time being," the King was said to have told reporters at the end of his meeting with President Mubarak. "It is a period of reflection for all those concerned in the area," the King said. He was apparently referring to Jordan's decision last month to terminate political coordination with the leadership of the PLO.

The King's meeting with President Mubarak was the first since last October. The two leaders had a closed meeting which a lasted for 90 minutes before they were joined by aides for an enlarged meeting at Al-Qubbah Presidential Palace in Cairo. The meeting was attended on the Jordanian side by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Royal Court Chief Marwan al-Qasim, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah and Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir.

Upon returning to Amman, King Husayn sent a cable to President Mubarak voicing appreciation for the hospitality accorded to the Jordanian delegation during the visit. He said he was deeply impressed by the consultations in Cairo and which he said were focused on issues of concern to the Arab Nation, according to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY, PETRA.

In his cable, King Husayn described the talks in Cairo as another stage in the long endeavours designed to serve the peoples of the Arab Nation.

Reportage on Saddam Husayn's Activities

Addresses UN Antiapartheid Group

JN220909 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] New York — His Majesty King Husayn has said that the Palestinian Arab people under occupation are exposed to coercion and inhuman practices and that Israel continues to make laws and policies encroaching on their rights and means of existence in their homeland.

The king addressed a message to the UN Antiapartheid Committee and it was read by 'Abdallah Salah, Jordan's permanent UN representative, during a celebration held at the United Nations yesterday on the occasion of the international day to end apartheid. In the message his majesty said: Jordan shares with the international community its rejection of policies aimed at oppressing people or encroaching on their civil, natural, and political rights because of race, color, and religious or political convictions.

The king said: My country, which bases its policies on Islamic principles, Arab traditions stemming from these principles, and on the UN Charter in letter and spirit, expresses deep concern and regret over the continuation of racial policies and practices in the age of civilization, awakening, and democracy — theage of human rights and liberties. Jordan also expresses its honest support for the international community's moves in the United Nations, the Security Council, and all international organizations rejecting the practices carried out by South Africa against African citizens, as well as its laws which ignore human rights and are contrary to human behavior and ethics.

His majesty affirmed that Jordan believes that any regime which is not based on humane law, which ignores UN principles and international charters and resolutions, and which does not apply equal laws for all the people in the same country should be rejected and fought.

King Husayn added: If we do so, we will remove an important source of tension, minimize the chances of exposing international security and peace to danger, commemorate victims of apartheid throughout history, and express our support for the citizens in South Africa who are standing steadfast against repression.

His majesty the king expressed Jordan's solidarity with the nationalists in South Africa; its support for their just struggle to regain their rights, liberties, and human dignity; and its renewed commitment to work together with the international community to end apartheid and all dangers threatening international security and peace.

Receives ICO's Pirzada, Comoran Minister

JN221642 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received ICO Secretary General Sharifuddin Pirzada at the Royal Hashemite Court this evening. The discussions, which were attended by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, focused on the current situation in the Islamic arena as well as on the challenges that are threatening both the Arab and Islamic nations. His majesty also stressed the importance of strengthening Islamic cooperation in accordance with the principle of solidarity and mutual responsibility in order to overcome our nation's difficulties.

His majesty also received the Comoran minister of economy and finance, who conveyed to his majesty a message from Comoran President Ahmed Abdallah. During this meeting, the Comoran minister praised Jordan's positive role under His Majesty King Husayn in achieving a just and comprehenisve peace in the Middle East.

Postpones Visit to Saudi Arabia

GF221352 Doha QNA in Arabic 1345 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Amman, 22 Mar (QNA) — It has been learned from a well-informed Jordanian source that the visit of the Jordanian monarch, His Majesty King Husayn, to Saudi Arabia has been postponed. The Jordanian monarch will visit at a later time as part of his tour to a number of the region's countries.

The Jordanian monarch visited Baghdad and met with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. He also visited Cairo and met with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak within the framework of coordination and consultation with Arab leaders on current developments and the escalation of the Iraq-Iran war which threatens neighboring countries.

Receives Call From Iraqi President

JN191618 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received a telephone call from His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn today. The Iraqi president reassured the king about the strength and solidness of the Iraqi military position in the face of the Iranian regime's aggression.

His excellency affirmed to his majesty the king that the brave Iraqi Army has completely purged the northern sector of the front from the Iranian invasion forces.

Prince Hasan Meets Pakistani Defense Academy Group

JN221902 Amman Television Service in Arabic
1800 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan received in his office this afternoon the head and members of the Pakistani National Defense Academy who are currently visiting Jordan. His highness briefed the delegation on the overall situation in the Middle East as well as on the Iraq-Iran war and Iranian ambitions in the Gulf area. He also touched on security in the Red Sea zone and the Zionist plans that are in line with Iranian ambitions in our region. He also called on the Islamic world to cooperate, close ranks, and return to the rules of the true religion. At the end of the meeting, his highness answered the questions posed by the guest delegation. The meeting was attended by the Pakistani ambassador and the Pakistani military attache in Amman.

Prime Minister Receives Saudi, Turkish Ministers

JN221435 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i received in his office this morning Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy of fraternal Saudi Arabia, who is currently visiting Jordan to participate in the 10th annual meeting of the Council of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank. Attending the meeting were Dr Hisham al-Khatib, acting finance minister, and the Saudi ambassador in Amman.

The prime minister also received Vehpi Dincerler, Turkish minister of state for prime minister's office affairs, [title as heard] in his office this afternoon. He conveyed a verbal message to the prime minister from Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal. The Turkish ambassador in Amman attended the meeting.

Visiting Ugandan Minister on Ties With Israel

JN222002 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Ugandan Minister of Foreign Affairs Ibrahim Mukiibi has stressed his country's support for the Arab countries in their just struggle to regain their occupied territories and the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. During a press conference held at the Marriott Hotel in Amman this evening on the periphery of the meetings of the Council of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank, he told PETRA-JNA that Uganda will not establish diplomatic relations with Israel, affirming that his government is ready to cooperate with all countries except Israel and South Africa. He also appealed to the Islamic countries to support his country's efforts to overcome the economic and social crises resulting from Uganda's difficult circumstances. He added that his country has prepared an emergency aid program to be presented to the ICO countries, the Islamic Development Bank, and all the friendly countries. He explained that the program calls for extending emergency aid of $160 million to Uganda for the reconstruction of the country, which was destroyed by the war, during the next 6 months. He also stressed his country's adherence to the principle of noninteference in other countries' domestic affairs and to positive neutrality in cooperation with all countries on the basis of respect for other countries' independence and sovereignty.

Joint Syrian Economic Committee Meets in Amman

JN202029 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A joint Jordanian-Syrian economic committee opened talks in Amman today to discuss measures to facilitate the flow of national products into the markets of both countries. The talks also covered bank transfers to settle payments and the establishment of trade centers in Amman and Damascus. The Jordanian side to the talks is led by Under Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Trade Mr Muhammad al-Saqqaf and the Syrian side is headed by his Syrian counterpart, Mr Ahmad al-Dabbas.

AL-DUSTUR on U.S. Mediterranean Maneuvers

JN240842 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Mar 86 pp 1, 19

[Editorial: "A Return to Gunboat Diplomacy"]

[Text] The United States has renewed its military maneuvers in the Mediterranean off the Libyan coast. These maneuvers appear to be part of a determined effort to elicit Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's reaction and provoke him to approach the U.S. planes or the 6th Fleet ships. This would then provide an excuse for a possible U.S. action against Libyan territory.

Despite our known reservations about Al-Qadhdhafi's regime and our strong rejection of many of his stands and policies on the Arab level, particularly toward the Iraq-Iran war. This does not prevent us from viewing the U.S. naval maneuvers as pure provocation against Arab territory and a fraternal Arab people. Such provocation by a superpower against a small country will result in spreading tension and shaking security and stability in the entire Mediterranean basin.

By continuing and intensifying such provocative maneuvers, the United States is setting a serious international precedent and opens the doors wide for the big powers' warships to implement coercive colonialist policies against small Third World countries.

The United States, which has taken international law into its own hands and is implementing this law by military force, is once again returning to the gunboat diplomacy rejected by international law in past decades and replaced by the UN law and a number of international agreements.

Once more, while declaring our opposition to many of al-Qadhdhafi's practices and stands toward many Arab issues, our feelings remain with the Libyan people and we will consider any foreign provocation against that people, particularly by a superpower such as the United States, as interference in the internal affairs of that fraternal people.

Therefore, the continued U.S. military maneuvers off the Libyan coast are rejected by all criteria. These maneuvers remain an unjustifiable provocation, particularly since the dangers that accompany them and the eventualities that may result from them will exacerbate tension in this part of the world and will result in a vicious circle of reaction. This will neither serve the declared U.S. objectives nor solve any of the issues that are ready to explode with friction of this kind.

Birri Reportedly Rejects Al-Jumayyil Plea

NC221625 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Today's newspapers have reported that the president of the Republic has asked an Arab diplomat to convey a message to Minister Nabih Birri. According to these reports, the message says that Minister Birri can play an important role in repairing the broken bridges between the government and Damascus in order to achieve a political solution to the current crisis.

It has been learned, however, that Minister Birri has rejected this proposal. He said that acceptance of the tripartite agreement is the minimum condition for opening dialogue with the government. Minister Birri then asked: In what way has President al-Jumayyil changed his position so as to allow us to request that the Syrian brothers put their confidence in him? Whoever seeks to reopen the dialogue with Damascus must first meet the necessary requirements of Lebanon. As one of the primary leaders responsible for undermining the tripartite agreement, President al-Jumayyil must now take the initiative.

UN's Goulding Holds Meetings With Officials

Goulding, Al-Jumayyil Talk

NC222205 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] A short while ago, President Amin al-Jumayyil and Marrack Goulding ended their approximately 2-hour meeting. As he was departing, Goulding said: I had a long conference with the president and briefed him on the results of my talks in neighbouring countries on the situation in southern Lebanon and the role of UNIFIL there. Goulding added: President al-Jumayyil stressed the Lebanese Government wishes that the UNIFIL mandate be extended for another 6 months. The UN official noted: We also discussed peace in the area.

Goulding Briefs Birri

NC220928 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Lawyer Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, received UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding and his assistant Jean-Claude Aime at 0945 today. Goulding briefed Birri on the outcome of his visits to Damascus, Amman, and Tel Aviv. They also discussed the general situation existing in the south.

Birri Comments on Talks

NC222155 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Remarks by Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, in response to questions by unidentified correspondents after his meeting with UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding on 22 March — recorded]

[Text] You are aware that Mr Goulding is making efforts in view of the approaching date for the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate and for the discussion of this matter on 19 April. Mr Goulding had earlier visited Lebanon and me personally to talk about this. Our position has been clear with regard to the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate: We support this renewal, as well as assistance for UNIFIL. Indeed, we aspire to increase UNIFIL's effectiveness and expanding its deployment up to the international borderline, in accordance with Resolution 425. Following Goulding's visit to a number of capitals in the area, we say that we are optimistic about the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate. However, as for progress in UNIFIL's task, this is still being discussed and [words indistinct]

[Question] Does this mean that there are difficulties on reinforcing and deploying UNIFIL on the borders?

[Birri] There are difficulties, as you are aware, especially because the United States has cut more than 50 percent of its aid and because there is great pressure to frustrate the UNIFIL task in southern Lebanon. I believe that this is not in the interest of the southerners. Israel inspires the U.S. pressure.

[Question] There has been recent talk about guarantees in the south, about arrangements or [words indistinct] guarantees for Israel's withdrawal, especially since it has been reiterated that there is a possibility for Israel to withdraw from the security zone.

[Birri] The Amal Movement position on this matter is well known. The only acceptable arrangement is Israel's unconditional withdrawal and the implementation of Resolution 425.

Karami on Goulding, Soviet Talks

NC221738 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Statement by Prime Minister Rashid Karami after meeting with Assistant UN Secretary General Marrack Goulding and with the Soviet charge d'affaires in Beirut on 22 March — recorded]

[Text] I received Assistant UN Secretary General Marrack Goulding, following his tour of some Arab counties and Israel. He briefed me on the results of his meetings and on what various government officials had told him. As a result, I can say that there is no change in Israel's stand on matters that concern us, in particular, the withdrawal, the security strip, the blockade of Tyre and Sidon ports, and ambitions related to our waters. I am very much concerned about the fate of the Al-Litani River.

Regarding the siege of the south, the Israelis stress that there is no siege, only a ban on bringing in weapons, particularly to the Palestinian resistance. As for the Al-Litani River, the Israelis stress that they have no ambitions involving any of our waters. Concerning total withdrawal, they claim that their stand on and their continued presence in the occupied areas are only for the protection and security of their country. However, we continue to insist on the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, especially 425, which calls for Israel's quick and unconditional withdrawal and for maintaining and deploying UNIFIL forces, together with our Army, along the borders with this historic enemy.

Briefly, this is the situation. We hope that the United Nations, out of concern for its dignity and role, will act as it should and will exercise its responsibility to reveal the true Israeli stands.

I also received the Soviet charge d'affaires, who conveyed his government's stand on the U.S. initiative and measures affecting USSR UN employees and representatives. For reasons that are not secret, the United States has taken measures to limit the movement of some of these Soviet representatives outside of work. The Soviets stress that the U.S. aims to pressure and influence the United Nations and confine its role. We are among the countries that are affected by this unjust U.S. policy, which opposes nations that are discriminated against. These nations consider the United Nations to be the principal international recourse for complaints and for demands for an end to oppressive action. We are not surprised by this conduct, of which the Soviet Union, along with us, is complaining. This complaint must make the public aware of the U.S. ideas, intentions, and attempts.

Soviet Envoy on Karami Meeting

NC221739 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] In a statement following his meeting with Prime Minister Rashid Karami today, the Soviet charge d'affaires said: We discussed the Lebanese parliamentary delegation's visit to the Soviet Union, as well as certain matters pertaining to the situation in the south.

Asked if he supports the U.S. and Israeli proposals for the establishment of security arrangements in the south, the Soviet charge d'affaires replied: We have not received any proposal in this regard. Concerning the Soviet position on renewing the UNIFIL mandate, the Soviet charge d'affaires stated: Our stand on this issue has not changed.

Goulding on Security Zone, UNIFIL

NC221809 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] After his meeting with Prime Minister Karami today, UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding told journalists: We discussed the visits that I have been making in the Middle East. We also conferred on the situation in the south, UNIFIL's future role, and broader topics on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Replying to a question about security arrangements in the south, Goulding said: It is clear from public statements that the Israeli Government wants to maintain the security zone, while the Lebanese Government rejects this.

Responding to a question about the effect of the security zone on UNIFIL's task, Goulding noted that the presence of this security zone certainly does have an effect. This zone prevents UNIFIL from advancing to the international borders stipulated by UN Security Council Resolution 425. We are trying to find ways to ensure the implementation of this resolution as soon as possible.

Goulding then left for the Presidential Palace to meet with President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil.

Goulding on Israeli Position

NC230946 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] UN Under Secretary General Marrack Goulding has informed Lebanese officials that Israel is asking for new formulas with regard to a security agreement with Lebanon. He said that the Israeli officials with whom he met have not rejected Lebanon's request that Israeli forces withdraw from southern territory, which Israel calls the security zone.

However, these officials do want guarantees that their settlements in northern Israel will not be subjected to terrorist operations or to shelling from positions within Lebanon. The Israeli officials have indicated that they will seek these guarantees from Lebanon and Syria within the framework of any reasonable formula acceptable to all three countries. Goulding said that the Israeli officials had informed him that until such guarantees are achieved, Israel will only trust its own Army to protect Israeli citizens living close to the border.

According to official sources, Goulding is also quoted as having said that the reason behind the Israeli demand for a security agreement with Lebanon is the fact that Israel has information that indicates that Palestinians, equipped with the most modern weapons, have returned to the south through sectarian organizations and active parties located there. Goulding noted that Israel believes it would be neither reasonable nor logical for it to contemplate withdrawing its forces from the security zone in the south before the Israeli Government has ascertained that the Palestinian squads have withdrawn. It must also obtain guarantees that the Lebanese are capable of preventing any hostile activities against Israel.

Goulding, therefore, believes that the Israeli position will help him in his task to formulate ideas that will be useful for a new international initiative to implement UN Security Council Resolutions 425, 426, 508, and 509.

French Embassy Workers Hold Demonstration, Strike

NC220830 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Approximately 30 employees of the French Embassy in Lebanon demonstrated outside the building in Mar Taqla in Al-Hazimiyah yesterday. They also observed a 1-hour strike to mark the first anniversary of the kidnapping of French diplomat Marcel Carton.

Fadlallah Expects French Hostage Solution 'Soon'

NC240727 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has affirmed that the question of establishing an Islamic republic in Lebanon is a political joke and is inconsistent with the political situation.

In an interview with *AL-ANWAR*, Fadallah said he thinks that the purpose of papal initiative was not to solve the Lebanese problem because conditions are not conducive to a solution, and the Vatican does not have the green light to press for such a solution. The initiative aims to organize the Christian situation and the relationship with Syria.

Fadlallah affirmed that Hizballah has pledged not to kidnap Christians. He said that the issue of the French hostages is part of the French-Iranian conflict. He expects that a solution to this problem will be reached soon.

Release Linked To Socialists' Fall

NC231726 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has declared that the fluid fighting among Muslims in West Beirut is part of a plan guided by certain intelligence services, as well as by regional and possibly international policies. Meanwhile, in an interview with the magazine *AL-MUSTAQBAL*, Fadlallah said that the abductors of the French hostages will release their captives as soon as the Socialist regime in France falls.

Birri on Amal's Objectives, Vatican Initiative

NC222140 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Attorney Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction, has reiterated his abidance of the resistance as a main factor for liberation. He said: We are not responsible for security in Galilee. The security zone is an Israeli pretext to cover its covetous designs. Minister Birri said that the solution of the domestic problem will only come through the solution of the problem in southern Lebanon. He pointed out that the Vatican initiative has failed because it has not begun.

Minister Birri's remarks were made during a reception that the Amal Movement held at the Summerland Hotel at 1500 today on the 12th anniversary of the establishment of the movement. Attending the reception were the ambassadors of the PRC, CSSR, Yugoslavia, Italy, Bulgaria, Japan, ROK, Austria, Ireland, Cuba, Romania, and the DPRK, as well as Soviet Charges d'Affaires Suslikov, and the charges d'affaires from Algeria, the FRG and the GDR.

At the reception, Minister Birri delivered the following speech:

[Begin recording] The Amal Movement will never accept kidnappings, whether they involve Lebanese, Arabs, or foreigners, specifically French, or others. The movement believes in the complete freedom of the citizen and is fighting all types of repression — dictatorship, feudalism, hegemony, and murder of citizens. Consequently, the Amal Movement opposes political sectarianism. Amal is not motivated by sectarianism, as some quarters allege. From this premise, we affirm that our demand for the cancellation of political sectarianism does not mean that we want an Islamic state, as the Phalangist Party has claimed. To be specific, the Phalangist Party and the Lebanese Forces want an Islamic republic, so that there will be a justification for a Christian republic. The Amal Movement completely rejects this. The movement fought and will continue to fight for Lebanon's unity.

Amal is a nationalist movement, which respects countries' sovereignty and the territorial integrity of the homeland, while combating colonialism and covetous designs against Lebanon. Adherence to pan-Arab interests and liberation of the Arab land are at the core of the movement's indivisible commitments. Amal believes that the survival of the homeland depends on the survival of the south, and that allegiance to the homeland means allegiance to the south. Therefore, everyone must join in the resistance. From this premise, the Amal Movement formed its stand on the issue of Palestine, the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian resistance. The movement supports the Palestinian people and resistance in their struggle to regain their land and establish their homeland in Palestine.

We hereby reiterate our commitment to the resistance in southern Lebanon. We repeat that this resistance is the principal factor necessary to liberate Lebanon. The second factor, which is compementary, is the presence of the UN emergency forces, the implementation of Resolution 425, and the deployment of the Lebanese Army alongside the UN emergency forces at the border lines. Israel will not benefit from its commitment to the security zone. At present, Israel tells the world that it wants the security zone to protect Galilee. Although we are not responsible for the safeguarding of Galilee, we declare that Israel's pretext is groundless because Israel has twice admitted that the border zone does not constitute the security zone that Israel desires. [end recording]

Karami on Vatican Move, South

NC211334 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] In an interview with the doyen of the Editors Association, Milhim Karam, Prime Minister Rashid Karami said that the papal initiative has been greeted with much respect and appreciation by other countries. This shows that it is considered to be important and indicative of concern for the future of Lebanon.

With regard to the situation in the South, Karami said: Security arrangements should be Lebanese. We are committed to the armistice agreement, which is seen as a document of international significance, since it was issued by the Security Council.

Reiterating his rejection of the concept of internationalization, Karami said: If the whole world unanimously agreed on a particular solution which was rejected by the Lebanese, this solution would be worthless. Karami thanked the Soviet Union for its understanding and interest in the Lebanese issue.

Karami on Christian Formula, Cabinet Boycott

NC220947 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has described the ideas that have been formulated into a draft solution by Christian leaders as a breakthrough and an indication of a readiness on the part of Christians to make specific concessions.

Responding to a question on this plan, which had been published in *AL-SAFIR* earlier, Prime Minister Karami said that agreeing to a 4-year rotation of the leading posts [president, Chamber of Deputies speaker, and prime minister] constitutes the beginning of a breakthrough. This is the first time that those parties that have clung exclusively to the presidential post have made such a proposal. This is an indication that they are making some concessions. We hope that this is a good sign that the door to comprehensive reforms to rescue Lebanon from its present painful situation will be opened.

Karami stated that he had not observed any practical proposals in the Vatican's initiative that would lead us to hope for the achievement of a first step toward a solution.

Karami reiterated his support for the tripartite agreement as a way to establish peace in Lebanon. He affirmed that security arrangements in the south must be 100 percent Lebanese. We are not responsible for the security of others. Karami also voiced his opposition to an internationalization of the Lebanese issue, for this would make the country's position, policy, and interests dependent on other states.

Prime Minister Karami made these remarks to Milhim Karam, doyen of editors. The two men also reviewed a number of professional demands. Prime Minister Karami emphasized that the boycott [of Cabinet meetings] will continue for as long as the reasons that prompted it remain valid.

Karami, Chamber of Deputies Blamed for Stagnation

NC240820 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] An Islamic Grouping source today said that Prime Minister Rashid Karami is largely responsible for the stagnant situation. The source maintained that the remainder of the responsibility should be attributed to the Chamber of Deputies and the other parties. According to this source, Prime Minister Karami, as head of the executive authority, was the first to declare the boycott [of the president], thus flinging the country into a governmental vacuum. The source asked: Will Prime Minister Karami dare to invite the Cabinet to meet so that action on the crisis may be initiated? Will he dare to hold consultations with the various parties, or arrange a meeting at any level in order to activate the administration? Will the Chamber of Deputies dare to call a session to discuss all aspects of the crisis?

Hizballah Detains Hostages; Identify Leaders

NC221333 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] According to Western diplomatic sources, the obscurity surrounding the fate of the kidnapped foreigners in West Beirut is due to the policy adopted by Hizballah with regard to everyone concerned with this issue. These same sources affirm that all the French, American, and Jewish people who have been abducted are located in one of Hizballah's centers. The sources say that Hizballah changes its name in order to mislead those who are searching for the kidnapees. Sometimes Hizballah uses the name Islamic Jihad, while at other times it calls itself the Oppressed of Earth or the Revolutionary Justice.

According to Western diplomatic sources, the Hizballah command follows a pyramid scheme in the distribution of its posts. Despite his protestations that he is not affiliated to Hizballah, the command's chairman is Shaykh Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah. The second strong man is Shaykh Hasan Nasrallah, whose name continues to be kept out of the limelight. The third man is Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli, who is directly in charge of the people detained by Hizballah. Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin is the party's official spokesman.

On the practical side, the official in charge of military affairs is 'Imad Maghniyah. *THE WASHINGTON POST* has already disclosed his involvement in blowing up the headquarters of the U.S. Marines and French paratroopers in Beirut in 1983. The paper holds France responsible in light of the fact that Maghniyah was permitted to leave French territory despite information given to Paris about his identity by U.S. intelligence.

In addition to Al-Tufayli, Mustafa Shihadah, and 'Abd al-Hadi Hamadah, he also deals with the kidnapped foreigners in their capacity as investigators.

Fadlallah's Home Fired On

NC230638 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0545 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] According to the latest security report, unidentified gunmen in a white car opened fire on the house of scholar Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah in Bi'r al-'Abd at 0100 today. Tension currently prevails in the area and armed roadblocks have been established.

Hizballah Spokesman Comments on Strike Force

NC211338 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1215 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Hizballah spokesman Shaykh Ibrahim al-Amin has stated that the future of Muslims is in danger. Consequently, he is seeking to make the people change Lebanon's political system. In a statement to *MAGAZINE*, published today, Al-Amin said that Hizballah derives its strength from its struggle against Israel, the United States, and France. He reiterated that the pro-Iran organization is not a party to the West Beirut problem; therefore, it is a party to its solution. He affirmed that Hizballah refuses to participate in the strike force. He also said that the tripartite agreement does not concern Hizballah.

'Armed Offices' on Contact Lines

NC220810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Strike Force is continuing to maintain security in West Beirut. 'Ali al-Musawi, member of the Political Bureau of the Progressive Socialist Party [PASP], has emphasized the importance of the formation of a joint-party strike force. This force, he said constitutes the beginning of a national front institution and the nucleus for joint national action.

He also stated: We have begun to transfer armed offices to the contact lines. We are retaining one main office and one branch office for every organization [in West Beirut]. He noted that the PSP and Amal are coordinating daily with Hizballah. Hizballah officials, he added, have shown a positive stand toward the problem of security.

Strike Force Accused of Car Theft

NC221608 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1145 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Amal Movement military official in charge of the Al-Raml al-Bayda' area has informed the Amal command about incidents involving members of the strike force in his sector. According to the military official, these people have stolen several cars and annoyed inhabitants.

Unidentified gunmen in Al-Awza'i' stole a green Toyota Corolla bearing license plate number 464898. The car belongs to Private 'Ali Muthlij of the 6th Brigade. In the Bi'r al-'Abd area, four gunmen stole a white Renault with license plate 352070. The car belongs to the French-Lebanese Bank and the gunmen apparently believed that there was money inside.

Birri Said Stifling From 'Political Isolation'

NC231801 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
1645 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Akram Shuhayyib, a member of the Progressive Socialist Party, confirmed today that the party and the Amal Movement have been unable to control the security situation in West Beirut. He said Hizballah is an effective force that must be dealt with logically. At this point, we would like to note that during his talks in Damascus, Minister Birri asked that Shuhayyib be relieved of his duties in Beirut. However, Minister Junblatt rejected this request.

In another development, political sources close to the Amal Movement have reported that Minister Birri is now feeling the effects of his stifling political isolation inside the movement, in the Shi'ite community, and in his actions with Junblatt, who currently supports Hizballah at Amal's expense.

No Decision on Soviet Contribution

NC241242 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1130 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Ministry Secretary General Fu'ad al-Turk today conferred with Soviet charge d'affaires Yuriy Suslikov about developments in the situation in the south and the Lebanese parliamentary delegation's forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union.

The Foreign Ministry secretary general received Suslikov at 1200 today. After their 30-minute meeting, Suslikov said: Ambassador al-Turk and I discussed the question of a Soviet contribution to the expenses of UNIFIL to replace that of the United States. However, there has been no final Soviet decision on this matter so far. He added: We also discussed some issues concerning the situation in the Mediterranean and in southern Lebanon, and the Lebanese parliamentary delegation's visit to Moscow.

Soviet Envoy on Contribution to UNIFIL Expenses

NC230852 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
0615 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] According to a source in the National Union Front, Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuriy Suslikov recently met with a number of front leaders. He posed several questions pertaining to the geographic and demographic situation in the border area, the positions where UNIFIL is deployed, and the positions occupied by Israeli and Lahd forces. Suslikov expressed the Soviet Union's interest in the situation in the south, as well as Moscow's readiness to contribute to UNIFIL expenses following the renewal of its mandate.

Camille Sham'un Comments on Recent Shelling

NC221014 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in English
0900 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] President Camille Sham'un this morning called on the President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil. The meeting, which lasted from 1000 till about 5 minutes ago, was attended by Dr George Sa'adah and member of parliament Jubran Tawq.

After the 1-hour meeting, President Camille Sham'un declared that discussions centered on developments after yesterday's military escalation in which over 40 localities and agglomerations were funded. President Camille Sham'un said that discussions also touched on ways to stop this blind shelling of eastern residential areas, either by negotiations or by special measures to be taken by the Lebanese Army and mainly in order to protect the villages of the Al-Matn and Kasrawan.

Asked what these measures are, Camille Sham'un replied: What else except military measures. President Camille Sham'un also said that political moves usually are taken by the president of the Republic and the government. The Army, he said, takes military measures. President Camille Sham'un also said that shelling occurs every day and in the most ferocious way.

Asked whether a cease-fire agreement can be reached, President Camille Sham'un replied: I hope so, but we all know what peace concluded with those who shell residential areas is. We recall that President Camille Sham'un said that these aggressions against peaceful residential areas must stop because it has no justification.

Further Reports on Fighting in South

Lahd, Popular Army Clash

NC211325 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Lahd militiamen created a flare-up in the situation along the Liba'-'Ayn al-Mir-Kafr Falus lines at 1200 today. They shelled positions belonging to the Popular Liberation Army's forces of martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd. The forces of martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd returned the fire and fierce fighting ensued. The Lahd militiamen expanded the area covered by their shelling at 1245. Six shells fell in Sidon. The villages east of Sidon as far as Kafr Falus came under similar shelling.

At 1310, the city of Sidon and its environs were subjected to concentrated artillery shelling. Israeli warships were also sighted off the Sidon coast. Lahd militiamen shelled the Lebanese Army barracks in Al-Salihiyah and Rafiq al-Hariri Palace at 1345. Several casualties have been reported in the Sidon area as a result of this treacherous shelling. The clashes are still continuing.

Fatah Claims 4 Israelis Killed

NC212006 Paris AFP in English 1957 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Sidon, Lebanon, March 21 (AFP) — Four Israeli soldiers and four Palestinian Guerrillas were killed early Friday in a clash on Israel's northern border, the Fatah guerrilla group said in a statement here. Fatah, the main faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), said the Palestinians were among a guerrilla group which tried to infiltrate northern Israel.

The guerrillas had captured four Israel soldiers as they made their way towards the Israeli border from this southern Lebanese region, the statement said. An Israeli patrol discovered them and killed four of the Palestinians in the seven-hour firefight, it added. The Israeli hostages also died.

The Palestinians were planning an attack on an Israeli Army position in the settlement of Zar'it, in the very north of Israel, said the statement which bore the stamp of the Palestine National Liberation Army-Command said. Some members of the commando escaped, it said, without giving their number.

Resistance Hits Israeli Settlement

NC220759 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Resistance fighters are continuing their attacks on enemy and militia positions in the south, particularly deep inside the occupied territory. They carried out a series of operations yesterday in Bint Jubayl, Jabal al-Rayhani, 'Aynata, Abu Qamhah, Jabal Safi, and Al-Suwaydah hill. They also attacked the settlement of Nahariyya with a number of rockets.

Sidon Casualties Reported

NC221136 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Voice of Lebanon has learned that one person has been killed and five others wounded in fighting that broke out in Sidon this morning between members of the Mustafa Sa'd Popular Liberation Army and Amal personnel. An armed state of alert now prevails in the area.

Palestinians Strengthen Positions

NC221445 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1145 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Citing informed Palestinian sources in south Lebanon, AFP has reported that 'Arafat loyalists are strengthening their positions in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah Wa Miyah camps. The report also notes that many 'Arafat supporters have returned to Tyre in recent months.

According to reports from Sidon, the probability that armed clashes will occur between local organizations and Palestinian organizations in the Sidon area is increasing. The reports add that members of the Political Council in Sidon are considering the possibility of sending a delegation to Damascus to discuss this issue, particularly now that Palestinians have reappeared with their arms in certain streets of the city, especially at night.

Army Under Fire; Tension in Sidon

NC221509 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1445 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Army positions between the old markets and Sodeco are coming under rocket fire from gunmen in West Beirut. In another development, the latest security reports indicate that there is great tension in Sidon, following the clashes that broke out today between Amal gunmen and personnel of the Popular Liberation Army. A number of the Amal Movement's wounded were transferred to the American University Hospital in Beirut.

Fierce Fighting in Sidon

NC222016 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Our correspondent in Sidon has reported that since 2100, fierce fighting between the Popular Liberation Army troops and agent Lahd militiamen has been raging along the Lib'a-Kafr Falus combat line. Artillery, machineguns, and rockets are being used in the fighting. Explosions are being heard throughout Sidon and neighboring areas.

Resistance Hits Israelis, Lahd

NC230833 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0530 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] According to a statement issued by the Lebanese National Resistance, a resistance group used automatic weapons and rockets in an attack against an Israeli enemy border guard patrol between the towns of (Rawhin) and Ramyah at dawn today. The resistance fighters destroyed two enemy vehicles and killed their occupants. The enemy immediately sent reinforcements to the area to conduct combing operations. The resistance fighters destroyed one tank belonging to this intervening force. The enemy then used its air force to drop flares on the area and to rake it with heavy-caliber machineguns.

Eyewitnesses have confirmed that more than 11 Israeli soldiers were wounded in the attack and taken by helicopter to the occupied territory. Agent Lahd's radio has admitted the operation, although it claims that only one Israeli soldier was wounded.

The Lebanese resistance squads — Amal issued a statement yesterday on the Haris-Kafra operation, which took place last Thursday morning. The statement said: The Al-Zrayriyah martyrs company of the Lebanese resistance squads set up ambushes on the Kafra-Sribbin, Sribbin-Rshaf, Dibil-Rshaf, and Abd Bayt lif-Sribbin crossroads at 0830. When a joint Israeli and agent Lahd patrol arrived at the Sribbin crossroads, it was attacked with machinegun and rocket fire. One enemy vehicle was destroyed. The enemy immediately moved its vehicles and used helicopters to rake the area with gunfire. The resistance forces then engaged the enemy with artillery and rocket fire. Another resistance group attacked the Kafra position and lent support to the forces advancing toward Haris. At 1000, enemy positions in Basil were attacked with rockets. Our forces also pounded the Kafra position with 60-mm mortar and 107-mm rocket fire at 1130. The Jabal al-Balat position was shelled at 1330, the same time that the confrontation on the Kafra-Sribbin crossroads was becoming more intense. The enemy retaliated by shelling the area. Approximately 150 artillery and mortar shells fell on the Haris and Kafra positions. Enemy helicopters also flew over this area. The enemy sustained 2 casualties and 11 Lahd army soldiers were killed or wounded. Two enemy vehicles were also destroyed. The resistance lost one fighter, martyr 'Ali Diyab, who was killed by the occupation forces after being wounded and taken captive. Three other fighters were also wounded.

Resistance Launches Rocket Attack

NC230952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The martyr Sa'd group of the Lebanese National Resistance attacked the settlement of (Mazra'it) with 107-mm rockets at 2200 last night. An Israeli tank camp in the settlement was hit. Enemy helicopters immediately launched combing operations of the area. The enemy radio has admitted the attack.

1 Killed in Al-Nabatiyah

NC240720 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] At 0700 today, the Israeli occupation forces shelled Al-Nabatiyah's crowded market area. As a result, Nada Nimr Hariri was killed and 18 others were wounded. Last night five shells fell in the town's Al-Ta'mir neighborhood, causing material damage. Dayr al-Zahrani, Habbush, and Kafr Rumman also came under shellfire during the night.

Secret Nuclear Weapons Talks With USSR Reported

GF211702 Salalah Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Press reports in Kuwait reported today that secret contacts and talks are currently underway between Syria and the Soviet Union pertaining to building a nuclear reactor in Syria or even to supplying Syria with nuclear bombs and warheads with the aim of attaining a genuine strategic balance with Israel.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* cited Western sources in Beirut close to Syria as saying that Syria and the Soviet Union made good progress in their talks with regard to providing Syria with nuclear weapons. These sources noted that Syria proposed to the Soviet Union to establish a nuclear reactor in Aleppo or to provide it with nuclear bombs in addition to Soviet nuclear strategic "Backfire" bombers or to supply it with nuclear warheads for long-range "Scud" missiles which it already possesses. Reports also indicate that it was circulated that the Syrian president visited Moscow a few weeks ago for this purpose.

Al-Asad Soviet Visit Reported

GF230702 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0635 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 23 Mar (WAM) — The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today says that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad made a secret visit to the USSR last Thursday [17 March]. He was accompanied on the 24-hour visit by Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and a large military delegation.

The paper quotes sources close to this issue as saying that three major issues were discussed by the Syrian and USSR leaders. The first deals with a possible war that Syria or Israel might launch and which will be intended to lead to an international conference to resolve the Middle East crisis. The paper notes that President al-Asad requested sophisticated Soviet arms in order to realize the old Syrian goal of achieving a strategic balance with the Israeli military.

The papers adds that the second issue is Damascus' relations with the PLO leadership. The third issue pertains to the Lebanese crisis and the plans proposed to resolve it.

The souurces told the newspaper that a major part of the talks centered on the situation of secret armed organizations and the acts of violence, kidnapping, and mutual assassinations among them, the most recent of which are the mutual acts of assassination between the Lebanese Communist Party and the Hizballah organization.

The paper quotes Arab sources as saying that they expect King Husayn of Jordan to visit Damascus this week.

PDRY Foreign Minister Arrives For Consultations

JN211426 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali arrived in Damascus this afternoon. On arrival, Al-Dali said that his visit to Damascus comes within the context of consultations and coordination between Syrian and PDRY officials on the good relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to promote and boost these relations in all fields.

Received By Khaddam

JN211834 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Presidnet 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali this evening. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib attended the meeting. They reviewed the situation in the region and relations between the two fraternal countries.

Received By Foreign Minister

JN211821 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs 'Isam al-Na'ib received PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali at 1800 this evening. They talked about the current Arab situation and issues of mutual interest, as well as the agenda of the Arab League Council scheduled to be held in Tunis on 24 March.

Departs Damascus

JN221409 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1305 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus, 22 Mar (SANA) — PDRY Foreign Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Dali left Damascus today. He was seen off at Damascus International Airport by 'Isam al-Na'ib, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Foreign Minister Al-Shar' Visits Tehran

For Iranian reportage on the visit of Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' to the Islamic Republic of Iran and his meetings with Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi and President Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, see the Iran section of the 21 March South Asia *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Returns From Tehran

JN211808 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus from Tehran this afternoon following a brief visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran during which he conveyed a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i.

FRG's Strauss Begins 2-Day Visit to Damascus

LD221933 Hamburg DPA in German 1741 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Munich 22 Mar (DPA) — Early this evening, Franz Josef Strauss, the prime minister of Bavaria and chairman of the Christain Social Union [CSU], flew from Riem Airport, Munich, to Syria for a 2-day visit. The CSU leader has accepted an invitation from Hafiz al-Asad, the Syrian president, for talks with the present and members of the Syrian Government. Strauss is expected to return to Munich on Monday evening.

In an interview with *BILD AM SONNTAG* Strauss, in answering a question on whether he was undertaking a mediation role between Syria and Israel, said that he had been in contact and had conversations in good faith with both the Syrian and the Israeli Governments for some time. "The Syrians are an indispensable and irreplaceable partner in the peace process, especially for the pacification of Lebanon." Syria and Israel have legitimate interests that are in conflict with one another. The interview was prereleased to DPA.

Strauss last visited Syria in February, 1984. That visit led to clashes with the Foreign Office which felt that it had not been informed. At that time, Strauss repudiated all criticism, and stated that he did not need to have his trips sanctioned by any office in Bonn.

Received By Khaddam

JN231824 Damascus Television Service in Arabic
1730 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam this evening received Franz-Josef Strauss [minister-president of Bavaria and leader of the FRG Christian Social Union], the accompanying delegation, and FRG Ambassador in Damascus Dr Herbert Woeckel. Talks revolved around the situation in the region and bilateral relations.

Explosion Prompts Al-Shar' Message to Arab League

JN201307 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
1115 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' has sent the following message to the Arab League secretary general:

At a time when Syria is facing Zionist and imperialist challenges and threats, which have escalated recently because of Syria's steadfast pan-Arab stand on more than one level; at a time when sincere efforts are being exerted to heal the rift and clear the Arab atmosphere; and as the Syrian leadership's efforts are receiving a clear response that provides tangible cohesion and solidarity to the Arab nation vis-a-vis the Zionist enemy's expansionist threats and ambitions, the Iraqi authorities insist on impeding and aborting these efforts and on endeavoring to escalate tension between the two countries after paving the way for this through a hysterical media campaign — a campaign in which some Iraqi officials have assailed Syria, which stands steadfast on the confrontation line against the Zionist enemy. Moreover, Iraq gave itself the right to demand Syria's expulsion from the Arab League.

At 1830 on Thursday, 13 March 1986, the Iraqi authorities detonated a booby-trapped refrigerator truck in Damascus, causing the fall of several innocent victims. Despite the fact that preliminary investigations have proved that the truck arrived from Iraq via Jordan, Syrian security authorities were eager not to announce any accusation unless after the hireling who carried out the operation has been arrested. The hireling admitted that Iraqi authorities had recruited him and entrusted him with committing this crime after securing all its tools and training him on how to use them. The confession by the aforementioned hireling, Ahmad Hasan 'Id, made during his interrogation, which is recorded in his own voice, constitutes irrefutable evidence that the Iraqi authorities are continuing their conspiracy against Syria, trying to undermine its national security and pan-Arab steadfastness.

Despite that, this heinous crime committed by the Iraqi authorities cannot harm Syria's steadfastness or the cohesion of its internal front. It does, however, constitute a violation of the Arab League charter. This crime also constitutes a treacherous stab in the back of all sincere efforts aimed at clearing the Arab atmosphere and achieving a genuine and effective Arab solidarity in confronting the great dangers posed to our Arab nation. Therefore, I am dutybound to inform you of this criminal act as well as its circumstances and serious motives.

I request that this message be circulated among the fraternal Arab countries.

Golan Druze Declare General Strike 21 Mar

TA210755 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] A general strike has been proclaimed in the Golan Druze villages. The decision on this was made by the Syria supporters at a meeting held in Majdal Shams, at the end of which a demonstration was held in the village to protest the new measures imposed by the government on the Golan Druze villages. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports on this:

[Begin recording] [Dar] The decision to strike against all the services throughout the day was made at an emergency meeting held overnight in the Druze temple in the village of Majdal Shams. The attendants, supporters of Syria, explained that this action is intended to protest against the new measures taken against the local population since the prime minister's visit there 3 weeks ago. Salman Sawadi, a local resident, noted some of those measures:

[Sawadi] They started closing areas off, erecting roadblocks, and taking many to prison for no reason at all.

[Dar] Let us point out that these detentions were not made for no reason at all, as the speaker claimed. The demonstration against the prime minister was illegal and some policemen, including the commander of the Galilee District police, Assistant Commander Ya'aqov Ganot, were injured. Last night, too, at the end of the meeting, a spontaneous demonstration took place in Majdal Shams, and the demonstrators chanted slogans against the government and its new policy on the Golan. Still, the head of the Mas'adah local council, Muhsin Abu Salah, called on the authorities to avoid collective punishment.

[Abu Salah] No collective punishments should be imposed because they will not help. The roadblocks, in effect, punish the positively disposed people primarily, and no distinction is being made between positively and negatively disposed people. [end recording]

Further Details

TA230815 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
23 Mar 86 pp 1,2

[Report by Yehuda Tzur and Moti Basoq]

[Excerpt] On 21 March thousands of Druze demonstrated against the government's policy on the Druze villages in the Golan Heights.

All that day there was a full strike by the Druze residents of the Golan Heights who neither cultivated their fields nor turned up to work at the Upper Galilee factories. At the beginning of the day many students arrived at the grade schools, but their parents quickly came to take them back home from fear of retaliation by the people, supporters of Syria, who had declared the strike.

From the early morning hours thousands of Druze from the four villages began gathering in Majdal Shams and paraded through the village streets to the central square. Speeches were made by the leaders of the strike, who called on the government to cancel the policy of imposing taxes and fines that the inhabitants cannot afford. The speeches also called for the liberation of the conquered land and for an end to be put to what they call the Israeli conquest of the Golan Heights. In the course of the parade several Syrian flags were flown. Throughout the parade the police were present but did not interfere, although they did photograph the people participating in the demonstration.

"Even if we sell all our property we will not be able to pay what is being demanded of us," the leaders of the strike, who are members of the Safadi family, told our correspondent. They said that for each dunam of apples an income tax payment of about 5,000 new shekels is being demanded, while the payment for the crop reaches a total of 1,500 new shekels. The strike's leaders complain that income tax files are being opened for each person who leaves his village to work in Qiryat Shemona or the Galilee panhandle, and sums are being demanded that nobody can afford, even if his house and land is sold.

A parade against the Israeli presence in the area was also held in the village of Buq'ata. Slogans were written in Arabic on the walls of houses in the village: "The conquest of the Golan Heights will come to an end," "We will liberate the Golan," "The Zionists and their dogs will not frighten us." The villagers say that the value of the apples which were confiscated on Thursday morning during an income tax raid, which was the reason for the strike, amounts to $50,000.

Israeli sources have told our correspondent that large sums of money are arriving from Syria to support the dozens of families leading the ferment in the Golan Heights. The money passes over the Jordan River bridges into the territories, and from there it makes its way to the Golan Heights to be divided among the supporters of Syria in the area. The Druze say that on 17 April, which is Syria's independence day, a giant demonstration will be held in the Druze villages in the Golan Heights which will prove the inhabitants' determination to fight against the Israeli conquest.

MK Nasir al-Din To Visit Area

TA231904 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Demonstrations against the government's policy toward the Druze were held this afternoon in the Golan villages of Mas'adah and Buq'ata. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that the Syrian flag was carried during these marches, but the police did not intervene. Our correspondent says that the Druze initiated the demostrations following the rumor that Likud Knesset Member Amal Nasir al-Din will visit Majdal Shams to confer with Israel's supporters.

Security Forces Uncover Terrorist Squads

TA231925 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Security forces have uncovered a number of terrorist gangs in the territories and the Jerusalem area. The Israel Army spokesman said tonight that the gangs are believed responsible for a variety of attacks, including the planting of an explosive-laden car in Me'a She'arim [religious quarter of Jerusalem] and explosive charges at various locations. With more details, reporter Alan Ben-'Ami.

[Begin recording] The Army spokesman gives no indication of how many people in all have been arrested, or any personal details about them. The two gangs that were picked up in the Ramallah and Jerusalem area belong to Fatah and are said to have carried out a series of attacks and attempted attacks going back to January last year, with the planting of an explosive charge in Ramat Gan. In September last year, says the Israel Army spokesman, some of the terrorists planted an explosive charge which exploded on a bus in Bene Beraq, injuring eight passengers. Another explosive charge was placed on a No. 20 bus in Jerusalem in December this year [as heard], but no one was hurt in that incident. Other explosive charges were placed at bus stops in the French Hill neighborhood of Jerusalem at the beginning of the year and at a soldiers' hitchhiking station beside Ben-Gurion Airport in February.

One of the most potentially lethal attempts to set off explosions was in the Me'a She'arim quarter of Jerusalem last September, when the terrorists parked a car packed with explosives and gas balloons on the main street. The car bomb was successfully dismantled after the alarm was raised when the car raised suspicions. Another terrorist gang picked up in Jerusalem is said to have thrown Molotov cocktails on various occasions at cars traveling in the Neve Ya'aqov neighborhood of the city.

Security forces have also arrested gangs in Samaria accused of throwing Molotov cocktails at Israeli vehicles in Qalqilyah and beside Elon More, and they are also believed to have carried out attacks on local Arabs whom they accused of collaboration with the authorities.

Another gang belonging to Fatah has also been arrested in Jericho for acts of sabotage in the Jericho area and in attempt to place an explosive charge in Jerusalem last summer. And a Fatah terrorist living in the Jabalyah camp in the Gaza area has been arrested on the charge of knifing an Israeli in the Old City of Jerusalem earlier this month. [end recording]

Peres Doubts Progress in Husayn-Mubarak Talk

TA210848 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Mar 86 p 1

[Report by Tzvi Zerahya and Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told *HA'ARETZ* last night that the Husayn-Mubarak meeting was more an exchange of information than a coordination of positions.

The prime minister expressed doubt that this meeting would bring in its wake any new political progress, and said that we must wait and see what results. "At this stage it seems to me that the Husayn-PLO position is impossible. Husayn is heading toward peace. Egypt is capable of making its own decisions. Husayn needs a Palestinian element."

Further Reportage, Commentary on Cairo Attack

Peres Expresses Confidence in Mubarak

TA211313 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres wrote to the Egyptian president that the forces who want violence will not dictate policy to Israel and Egypt. In a letter replying to a message President Mubarak sent via the tourism minister, Shim'on Peres wrote that he is convinced that President Mubarak is doing everything possible to punish those guilty of the attack against the Israelis.

In a message the tourism minister brought to Jerusalem, President Mubarak said that such criminal acts as the attack against the Israelis will not affect the peace process but will only strengthen his determination to eliminate the reasons for hostility and achieve a just agreement.

Shamir Calls For 'Act of Peace'

TA210615 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir demands that Egypt take action toward changing its attitude toward Israel, and has accused the Egyptian media of showing hostility toward Israel and encouraging attacks on Israelis there. Yitzhaq Shamir said this last night at a meeting with the academic staff of the Technion, and our correspondent Haviva Roger brings excerpts from his remarks:

[Begin Shamir recording] What happened in Egypt yesterday was extremely grave. In one year, the past year, three attacks were perpetrated in Egypt against Israeli Embassy employees. Our voice, the voice of peace, appears to be falling on deaf ears, and it rings back in form of deadly bullets. We would like to see acts of peace, not only promises. We have had plenty of promises, and we are sick of these promises that are not fulfilled or honored.

On the subject of terrorism and acts of murder and the Egyptian people's attitude toward such acts, there is a special clause in the agenda of the peace talks with Egypt which we call education for peace. In this context, the Egyptians themselves have admitted that the people in Israel want peace, while the people in Egypt do not desire it so much. We say: If you and we want this situation to change at some point in the future, this administration must do something about it. [end recording]

Further on Shamir Remarks

TA210618 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who was in Haifa last night, told reporter Vivien Royston that he is worried about the safety of Israeli personnel working in Egypt.

[Begin recording] [Shamir] It is not the first time that terrorists in Egypt have attacked members of our embassy. It is the third time they are doing it, and I am worried about the security of all the other members of our embassy. I hope that the Egyptian authorities will take all the necessary measures to prevent such attacks in the future, not only words.

[Royston] How do you think it will affect the peace process?
[Shamir] Of course, it has an impact. It has an impact on public opinion, on members of government, because these attacks, and the intentions of these terrorists who are doing it, is to sabotage the peace process. And I think all the factors, all these personalities, who are interested to continue the peace process have to do their utmost in order to prevent such events. [end recording]

Cabinet Views Egyptian Ties

TA231155 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1147 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] At today's Cabinet session relations between Israel and Egypt were reviewed in light of the commercial fair there and the attack against the Israeli Embassy staff. Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed appreciation for the way the Egyptian authorities dealt with matters following the murder and for the way most of the Egyptian media treated this incident.

The tourism minister, who recently returned from Cairo, conveyed to the Cabinet the condolences of the Egyptian president, its prime minister, and foreign minister, and their determination to capture the attackers.

The Cabinet also decided to authorize the agriculture minister to prepare an emergency code to restrict the use of water and its consumption. The Cabinet decided to propose to the Knesset an amendment to the law under the terms of which the general ban on the employment of women on night shifts would be canceled.

Ministers Praise Egypt

TA231732 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Report by 'Oz Frankel]

[Text] The novelty in today's weekly Cabinet meeting perhaps lay in the positive tone with which the Israeli-Egyptian relations were reviewed, despite the last act or murder. Compliments were heard today about the Egyptian authorities' conduct in the wake of attack on the Israeli Embassy workers in Cairo.

Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir who returned from Cairo said he was greatly impressed by the Egyptian handling of the affair. For instance, when he arrived at the hospital where the wounded were hospitalized he found that the Cairo governor and the Egyptian health minister had already been there.

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told the ministers that after the attack a presidential instruction was issued to give the Israelis special and immediate treatment.

Minister Sharir said that President Mubarak, as well as the Egyptian prime minister and foreign minister, expressed shock and sincere concern, saying that the murder was not perpetrated by Egyptian elements and that the Egyptians are interested in the continuation of the peace process. Mubarak instructed that the restrictions in the sphere of commerce and tourism between the two countries be cancelled, and Sharir expressed his belief that Israel and Egypt can reach trade agreements to the tune of $150 million. In his talks in Cairo he heard special appreciation for the position expressed by the Israeli Government and media during the recent riots in Egypt.

Foreign Minister Shamir said that the Egyptian press behaved properly: Nothing was covered up; criticism, sometimes sharp, was directed at the act of terror, although a single paper, *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, deviated from this line and published an article hostile to Israel.

In the wake of a press report Minister Ari'el Sharon asked whether Israel encouraged the Jewish lobby in Washington to stop its activity against the U.S.-Saudi arms deal. Sharon said he cannot recall a Cabinet decision on this issue, and in his opinion, Israel should lead the opposition to this deal. The prime minister replied that Israel's unchanged position is one of opposition to arms sale to our enemies and there was no hint about stopping this opposition.

Likud Minister Moshe Qatzav wanted to know why Alignment Minister Moshe Shahal was entrusted with answering a Knesset motion for the agenda concerning the Herut convention. He also wanted to know why Alignment Minister Gad Ya'aqobi was selected to answer another motion which concerned the benefits extended to settlements in the territories as opposed to the situation in development towns. Shim'on Peres refused to answer on the grounds that Qatzav's query was published earlier in the press. The prime minister said it is unacceptable that a minister should put a biting question in the press and then ask it in the government. Peres charged that Qatzav is the Cabinet minister whose actions are most partisan. Qatzav responded by saying: Instead of a matter-of-fact answer, you are ruling out the question. Peres retorted: You can then draw the appropriate conclusions. Qatzav: I drew my conclusions a long time ago.

Further Reportage on Latest Tabah Talks

Tamir: Progress, Some Differences

TA210920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The dealings on the Tabah issue went ahead as usual. The attack in Cairo did not affect either the atmosphere of the talks which directors general held in Cairo or the talks themselves. The directors general, David Kimche and Avraham Tamir, said on their return that progress was made in the latest round of talks, although differences of opinion still remain. They said that the talks would continue in Israel next week. This is what Avraham Tamir, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office, told our correspondent Menahem Friedman:

[Begin recording] [Tamir] Since the Cabinet decision we have been dealing simultaneously with two matters: the arbitral compromis and the issue of bilateral relations. Progress was made in both areas.

[Friedman] Would you say that today we are nearer to formulating the arbitral compromis on Tabah?
[Tamir] I would definitely say we are near to this, although it should be understood that it is not as though one or two points of dispute do not remain. These points will either be settled at our level or they will be raised before the political echelon, which is standard procedure. [end recording]

Ministers Comment on Results

TA230550 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 23 Mar 86 pp 1,8

[Report by Benny Morris]

[Text] Israeli officials were extremely pleased with the past week's progress in bilateral relations with Egypt, but remained angered and depressed by Wednesday's terrorist attack on Israelis outside the Israel trade pavilion in the Cairo Trade Fair.

The officials, noting Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's assurances to Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir in Cairo on Thursday that Egypt would remove all curbs and restraints on bilateral trade and tourism, said that the "normalization" of relations between the two countries was already "proceeding apace."

Sharir, briefing Prime Minister Shim'on Peres on Friday morning, said that he believed that Mubarak's instructions on lifting the curbs had already reached the "executive level" of the Egyptian bureaucracy. Sharir estimated that bilateral trade could soon reach $150 million.

The head of the Israeli delegation to the Tabah and normalization talks, Avraham Tamir, the director-general of the Prime Minister's Office, who also returned from Egypt on Thursday night, described the progress made last week as "beyond expectations."

Foreign Ministry Director-General David Kimche, who also attended the talks — which are to resume in Herzliyya later this week — said that there was still a substantial gap between the two countries' positions on the formulation of the key "question" the Tabah arbitrators are to answer. The sides have also not agreed on the identity of the other members of the arbitration panel. Kimche told Israel TV on Friday night that the two sides had so far hammered out a 25-page draft compromis, the agreed document outlining the terms of reference of the arbitration. The two sides apparently made progress regarding the nature of the access and ownership rights in Tabah for the loser in the arbitration.

Observers thought it likely that following this week's round of negotiations in Herzliyya, the directors-general would submit one or two possible draft versions of the compromis to the Inner Cabinet for political-level ratification.

Sharir, who was accompanied to Egypt by a team of tourism officials and travel agents, returned with an agreement on a number of steps, following meetings between the Israeli and Egyptian travel agents and officials. A travel agents' committee is to be set up to simplify tourism procedures (visas, travel taxes), and promote Egyptian tourism to Israel and package tourism from the U.S. and Europe to Israel and Egypt. The two sides agreed to start reciprocal tours of travel agents from both countries to facilitate tourism.

Following Wednesday's attack in Cairo, Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sason met senior Egyptian Interior Ministry officials to request an increase in security for Israeli officials and facilities. The Egyptians reportedly agreed to the request, and are to let Israeli diplomats change the diplomatic licence plates on their cars (which Israel had previously complained potentially marked their cars for terrorist attack).

Mubarak and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid sent letters of condolence to Israel over the weekend. Mubarak's letter to Peres expressed his "sorrow" at the attack and said such "criminal acts" would not affect the peace process, but would rather strengthen the resolve "to remove the causes of tension and violence and reinforce the desire to achieve a just and lasting peace." Peres responded that he was sure Mubarak was doing his best to apprehend and punish the terrorists, and to prevent the recurrence of such acts.

Tamir said that following the attack, Egyptian medical and security personnel had acted "promptly and efficiently." He noted that on Thursday most Egyptians he had talked to had expressed shock and anger over the attack. "We are dealing with a nation that wants peace," said Tamir.

No Progress Seen in Compromis

TA231913 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Israel will submit to the Egyptian Government a complaint about the grave case of the inflammatory article published in today's issue of the newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, against the Israeli Embassy. Foreign Minister Shamir believes that this article conflicts with the words of appeasement voiced recently by the Egyptian leaders, and he therefore asked Ambassador Sason to confer with Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid.

Meanwhile, Foreign Ministry sources have said that an examination of the report on the talks held by the directors-general in Cairo indicates that the differences of opinion on the Tabah arbitral compromis remain just as they were when the negotiations were first launched. Sources in the Foreign Ministry have told our correspondent that the Egyptians may even have become more intransigent.

Labor Convention To Discuss Coalition Situation

TA231801 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Labor Party Central Committee this evening decided to suggest that the continued participation in the unity government be raised at the party convention. The proposals raised today at the party center that the unity government be disbanded because it has exhausted itself will also be discussed at the party convention. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres said at the debate that he fully supports the rotation. He believes that Labor Party must not discuss the rotation but must deal with laying down the government's guidelines for the next 2 years.

In reply to remarks made by the opponents of the rotation, whose objection is based on fear of the Likud's policy, the prime minister said: If the two large parties do not agree on their policy, the government will not be able to exist for even a single day.

Mikha'el Bar-Zohar and Efrayim Singer, the secretary of the Labor Party's Young Guard, demanded that the unity government be disbanded because they believe the Likud has already violated most of the clauses in the coalition agreement.

The Labor Party secretary suggested transferring discussion of the issue to the party convention, scheduled to meet in approximately 2 weeks. Knesset Member 'Uzi Bar'am said that if it transpires by the time of the party convention that the rotation will involve Ari'el Sharon rather than Yitzhaq Shamir, this should be regarded as a good reason to disband the unity government.

Peres Opposes Early Elections

TA232115 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres warned the Labor Party Central Committee against early elections, saying he is not afraid of the election results but rather of their price. We have begun a process of economic recovery, Shim'on Peres said, and growth should be renewed without breaking the budget framework.

He recommended to the Central Committee that the Labor Party's participation in the national unity government be continued and that rotation be carried out.

He warned, however, that if the Likud does not keep the coalition agreement the Alignment will not remain in the government for even a single day.

The Central Committee decided to transfer the decision on rotation to the Labor Party convention which will be held in 2 weeks.

IDF To Hold Mobilization Exercise 'Soon'

TA230620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Army spokesman has announced that the Army will be holding a mobilization exercise soon. The exercise is designed to check the efficiency of the public call-up procedures.

Several thousand reserve soldiers and vehicles will be involved. Call-up codewords will be broadcast on radio and television, and reservists are to report to their meeting places or assembly points.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives Brahimi Prior to Libya Visit

LD201931 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The head of state has received the prime minister on the eve of his departure for Tripoli. Mr Abdelhamid Brahimi will make an official visit to the Libyan Jamahriyah at the head of a large delegation. The foreign affairs minister is in Vienna on an official visit at the invitation of his Austrian counterpart. Their bilateral political talks started this afternoon.

Foreign Minister on U.S.-Libyan Conflict, Chad

AU240941 Vienna Domestic Service in German 0618 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Raimiund Loew report on interview given to him by Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi in Vienna "last weekend, before his departure for Algiers by air" with recorded passages in French with superimposed German translation]

[Text] Algerian Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi first of all wants to express his pleasure with his first visit to Austria. Cooperation between the two countries is remarkable, he says, and Algeria has not forgotten that some political figures who are active in Austria today stood at the side of the Algerians during the Algerian liberation struggle against the French. Today Austria again adopts courageous positions regarding questions that are sensitive for Algeria, such as the Western Sahara issue, and the Middle East conflict. Regarding the most important sector of economic cooperation: Austrian firms have been working on the development of the Algerian railroad system since 1982, for which Austria has already granted a 6 billion schilling loan. A further sum of 3.5 billion schillings is to follow in the near future.

In the international arena, Algeria is primarily concerned with the problem of the Western Sahara: For over 10 years, since the Spaniards withdrew from this former colony of theirs, there has been war in the Western Sahara. Morocco claims the territory for itself and occupies it with tens of thousands of soldiers. The Polisario, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Sagui el-Hamra and Rio de Oro (Western Sahara), is waging a guerrilla war -- with Algerian support -- for an independent state for the approximately 200,000 people who live in the Sahara. The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic proclaimed by the Polisario has been recognized by the OAU as a member-county. Algeria's Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi states:

[Begin recording] We Austrians and Algerians both share the wish that reason asserts itself and Morocco at long last begins talks with the fighters of the Western Sahara. A cease-fire should be negotiated and a referendum set up. At present Senegalese President Abdou Diouf, who is the current OAU president, is trying to get Morocco and the Polisario to the negotiating table. [end recording]

As regards the escalating conflict between Libya, a neighbor of Algeria, and the United States, Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi takes a categorical stance: Algeria, he says, stands at the side of the fraternal Arab country of Libya, and if the situation intensifies, it will not confine itself to mere solidarity in words. Algiers demands the withdrawal of the fleets of both superpowers from the Mediterranean.

Another topic of the Algerian-Austrian talks on international issues was the civil war in Chad. Here Algeria avoids siding with Libya, which supports the rebels fighting against the pro-Western central government in the northern part of Chad. The foreign minister states:

[Begin recording] We in Algeria are convinced that the Chadian affair is solely a matter for the Chadian people themselves. A solution must be found for national reconciliation. All foreign troops, be they African or non-African, must pull out. Under the aegis of the OAU, a meeting between the two rival presidents, Habre and Goukouni, in the capital of the People's Republic of the Congo is forthcoming. [end recording]

Algeria's position on the Middle East conflict has remained unchanged: Algeria continues to support the PLO. Without including the PLO and establishment of a Palestinian state — says Foreign Minister Taleb Ibrahimi — a peace settlement in the Middle East will never be possible.

Reportage on Visit of Tunisian Prime Minister

Arrives 22 Mar

LD221439 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Mohamed Mzali, secretary general of the Tunisian Socialist Destour Party, prime minister and minister of the interior, arrived in Algiers this morning at the head of an important delegation of Political Bureau members on a working visit to Algeria at the invitation of the FLN Party.

Mzali and his delegation were welcomed by Mohammed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and official in charge of the FLN Permanent Secretariat, accompanied by Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi member of the FLN Political Bureau and foreign minister, and Bachir Rouis, alternate member of the Political Bureau and minister of information, as well as by members of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee and the Algerian ambassador to Tunisia.

In a statement at the VIP lounge, Mzali expressed pleasure at paying this working visit to Algeria at the invitation of the FLN Party within the framework of cooperation and consultation between the two parties. He said he brings with him a message of friendship, fraternity, and admiration from President Habib Bourguiba to President Chadli Bendjedid and that during this visit he will discuss ways to improve cooperation between the two parties by virtue of their position in the forefront of those working for closer cooperation. He added that the Greater Arab Maghreb unity is dear to our hearts and that the talks in Algeria will be beneficial and will further crystalize political concepts and cooperation between the two countries.

Received by President

LD230015 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] At noon yesterday [22 March], Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic of Algeria, received Mohamed Mzali, Tunisian prime minister and minister of the interior, at the presidential office in Algiers and held lengthy talks with him. On this occasion Mohamed Mzali conveyed a message of friendship and appreciation from President Habib Bourguiba to the Algerian president.

President Chadli Bendjedid asked the prime minister to convey his sentiments of friendship and appreciation and his wishes for good health and long life to the Supreme Combatant, along with his wish for continued progress and prosperity for the Tunisian people.

The TAP correspondent in Algiers has learned that the talks focused on the excellent and distinguished bilateral relations between the two leaderships, the two parties and peoples and on the means for providing them with more motivation and activity in order to achieve further development in the two countries in accordance with the spirit of the concord and fraternity accord. In this context, the steps toward productive bilateral relations in various areas were reviewed.

The correspondent has learned that the talks also dealt with issues of mutual concern on the situation in the Great Arab Maghreb region and in the Arab and world arenas. In this context, it transpired again that the two countries' views were identical regarding these issues.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD231314 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Mohamed Mzali, the Tunisian prime minister and secretary general of the Socialist Destourian Party, left Algiers this morning following a 48-hour visit, during which he held talks with a number of FLN Party and government officials, and was received by President Chadli Bendjedid.

Mzali stated that his visit enabled him to hold very positive and frank talks on issues concerning the Greater Arab Maghreb. He noted that agreement was reached on organizing meetings on a regular basis to continue the dialogue and consultation. He expressed his optimism and hopes for the future of relations between the countries of the Arab Maghreb and the region in general, and bilateral relations in particular.

He was entrusted with a message of brotherhood and friendship from President Chadli Bendjedid to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba renewing the determination to march forward toward better relations of a higher level. He expressed his deep satisfaction at the fraternal atmosphere which prevailed during the talks between the Algerian and Tunisian delegations. He described the talks as deep, sincere, and promising for further development in the relations between the two countries.

LIBYA

Armed Forces Division Holds Live-Ammunition Exercise

LD232332 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2300 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The Arab Libyan Armed Forces have conducted an exercise with live ammunition at the level of a division, with the participation of detachments of the armed people and conscripts. [date and place not specified] The exercise was attended by Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Arab Libyan Armed Forces, and staff officers.

Beirut Paper Cited on U.S. Mediterranean Maneuvers

LD241022 Tripoli JANA in English 0942 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Beirut, Rajab 13, March 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY -- The Beirut-based daily, *AL-NIDA'*, says that the ongoing U.S. Manoeuvres in the Mediterranean Sea is an integral Part of U.S. policy in the Middle East the aim of which being the imposition of Washington's will on the Arab world and the fulfillment of the doctrine which regards the countries of the Mediterranean Sea basin as one of U.S. vital interests.

It adds that USA is attempting with all means to impose its control on oil-producing countries in the region. It, at the same time, the paper continues, endeavours to make a strategic military foothold there so as to both suppress the national liberation Arab struggle and toppled the regims that it doesn't like.

USSR Diplomat Warns U.S. Against Aggression

LD231836 Tripoli JANA in English 1802 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Washington, Rajab 12, March 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY The first secretary of the Soviet Embassy in Washington warned the American Administration against any act of aggression or terrorism against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Damascus radio quoted the Soviet official as saying that the USSR would stand idly by [as received] but it would respond to any aggression against Jamahiriyah by American imperialism.

Jallud, Soviet Envoy Discuss International Situation

LD240721 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0710 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 24 Mar (JANA) — The Brother Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud has received [date not specified] the Soviet ambassador to the Socialist People Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

During the meeting messages from the Libyan and Soviet leaderships were exchanged in connection with the current international situation.

Al-Qadhdhafi, King Fahd Discuss Oil Situation

LD232118 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Mar (JANA) — A telephone conversation took place this afternoon between the brother leader of the revolution and King Fahd of Saudi Arabia concerning coordination between the two countries on the sharp collapse of oil prices and the current OPEC meetings.

Views coincided on the need to take all measures likely to ensure a quick return to earlier oil prices. Agreement was also reached on the need to adopt a production ceiling to which all the OPEC member states must be committed in accordance with determined quotas. The two countries will coordinate their efforts in order to ensure these trends.

Reportage on Visit of Algerian Prime Minister

Arrives 21 March

LD211848 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1835 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Tripoli, 21 Mar (JANA) — Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, the Algerian prime minister, and his accompanying delegation arrived in Tripoli this evening on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi made a statement to JANA in which he and the accompanying delegation expressed their pleasure at visiting Libya. In his statement he pointed out the great attention given by President Chadli Bendjedid since his meeting with his brother Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the revolution. [sentence as received] He said that this visit comes within the framework of consolidating the bilateral cooperation in various fields in the interest of the two fraternal peoples and the Great Arab Maghreb.

Joint Talks Begin

LD221331 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Abdelhamid Brahimi, candidate member of the FLN Political Bureau and prime minister, continues his official visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah which he began yesterday. Here is a recorded dispatch which we have received from our radio correspondent in Tripoli:

In an atmosphere of fraternity and solidarity, official talks began in Tripoli this morning between the Algerian delegation led by candidate member of the FLN Political Bureau and Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi, and the Libyan delegation led by Secretary of the General People's Committee Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi. The meeting began with a speech by Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud who recalled Algerian-Libyan relations and the conditions through which the Arab nation is passing. He noted the need for cohesion to face the challenges and outlined the Jamahiriyah's views and position on this matter.

Today's talks follow the contacts held at various levels between officials of Algeria and Libya in recent months. The present visit aims at finding practical methods for economic, social, and cultural cooperation between Algeria and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which acquires its importance from the fact that it adds to the concept of cooperation and fraternity in the Arab Maghreb a historical dimension based on the peoples of the region. Experiences gained from the past, with all the positive aspects involved, are bound to provide the solid ground on which to build this cooperation and to rally the sons of the region as a force supporting the Arab nation.

It was in this spirit that this morning's talks were held firstly in camera by the two delegation chiefs, Brother Prime Minister Abdelhamid Brahimi and Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee, following by a speech from Maj 'Abd al-Salam Jallud in the plenary session of all members of the two delegations.

This morning, the Algerian delegation visited the memorial of the martyrs of the Al-Hadi battle, where the prime minister and other members of his delegation read prayers for the souls of the martyrs before proceeding to the General People's Secretariat where the talks are taking place.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD231951 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1755 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Mar (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution today received Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the FLN Political Bureau and Algerian prime minister. The meeting took place in the presence of the brother secretary of the General People's Committee.

Cooperation Meeting Minutes Signed

LD232001 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1810 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Mar (JANA) — The minutes of a meeting on joint cooperation was signed this evening between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the fraternal Democratic People's Republic of Algeria. The minutes of the meeting provide for the strengthening and expanding of joint cooperation in the economic, industrial, cultural, and information domains.

The minutes were signed by Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee, and on the Algerian side by Brother Abdelhamid Brahimi, member of the FLN Political Bureau and Algerian prime minister.

Concludes Visit, Departs

LD232121 Tripoli JANA in English 1859 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli Rajab 12, March 23, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The Algerian F.L.N. Party and prime minister, and the delegation accompanying him left Tripoli this evening after a 3 day visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Bidding them farewell at Tripoli International Airport were engineer Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the General People's Committee and members of the Committee and a number of officers of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces as well as heads of diplomatic mission accredited to Jamahiriyah and members of the Algerian Embassy in Tripoli.

Prime Minister Brahimi hailed the results of his visit and the delegation accompanying him to Jamahiriyah. In a statement to JANA correspondent before leaving Tripoli International Airport today, Prime Minister Brahimi said "talks with our brothers in Jamahiriyah led to positive results including agreement to set up joint projects in economic and technical fields." Prime Minister Brahimi pointed out that these projects represent an earnest step along the path of total Arab unity which we are seeking to realise.

He said "The Algerian delegation conveyed to the brother leader warm and sincere greetings from his brother Chadli Bendjedid." Also the delegation listened to directives by the leader on the need to follow up this agreement and endeavour to consolidate cooperation in various fields.

'Text' of Joint Communique

LD232216 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1855 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli, 23 March (JANA) — A press communique was released in Tripoli and Algiers this evening on the conclusion of the visit of Brother Adbelhamid Brahimi, member of the Political Bureau of the FLN Party and Algerian prime minister, and the delegation accompanying him. Here is the text of the communique:

Proceeding from the fraternal relations that bring together the two fraternal peoples of Libya and Algeria; given the directives given by the brother leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, and President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria and secretary general of the FLN Party during their meeting in In Amenas on 28 January 1986 AD; and in the framework of the unionist meetings between the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah and the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria, a meeting was held in Tripoli in the period 10-12 Rajah 1395 after the demise of the Prophet, corresponding to 21-23 March 1986 AD, between the brother secretary and the members of the General People's Committee of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and the prime minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Algeria.

The meeting was opened with a speech by Brother Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud in which he stressed the objectives sought by the leaderships of both countries, namely the construction of a strong unity which would be the core for the union of the Arab Maghreb and a comprehensive union of the Arab nation. He also mentioned factors such as history, civilization, struggle, and geography which link the two fraternal peoples and entitle them to establish a union. Staff Major Jallud also discussed in his speech all issues of mutual interest between the two countries.

The two sides have expressed their satisfaction with the unity of their respective analyses and viewpoints over these issues. All topics have been discussed at this meeting, and the two sides ahve expressed full appreciation for the executive steps taken in various fields. They have decided to establish down more programs and projects in order to give momentum to the joint action between the two countries, and realize the hopes and aspirations of the two peoples for unity and progress. The two sides have reviewed the agreements and minutes concluded between them, and have undertaken to further implement them within a fixed timetable.

'Revolutionary Forces' Liquidate 'Stray Dog'

LD240751 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0725 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Banghazi, 24 Mar (JANA) — The revolutionary forces in Banghazi destroyed the house of the stray dog, the cadaver Ahmad Hawwas. The revolutionary forces issued a statement in which they reaffirmed their resolve to pursue the stray dogs and the enemies of the masses — the enemies of the people's authority — at home and abroad, and to physically liquidate them, to destroy whatever is related to the symbols of the defunct regime, and to confiscate their properties.

MOROCCO

Hassan Proposes Meeting Between Arab Leader, Israeli

LD240834 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0759 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 24 Mar (KUNA) — Morocco's King Hassan II, in a statement published here today, has proposed that the Arab heads of state should elect one among them to meet an Israeli official at a summit level carrying only the Fez resolutions in his [the Arab head of state] briefcase. In an interview with the Kuwaiti *AL-SIYASAH*, King Hassan II pointed out that this [elected] Arab head of state will not negotiate, will not be committed to anything, and will not sign anything. His task will only be to feel the pulse, probe, and ascertain the enemy's views on the Fez summit resolutions in a direct manner. He asked: What is shameful about that if the Arab leaders elected someone and told him: Go but do not negotiate, do not be committed to anything, and do not sign anything? Just go and meet someone at the top of the Israeli leadership and carry with you in your briefcase the Fez summit resolutions that were approved by the Arab world.

Asked about a Moroccan mediation between Jordan and the PLO leadership, King Hassan II replied: Morocco is always willing to mediate, and Morocco believes that unity of rank and aim between the Palestinians and the Jordanians is fundamental to solving the Arab issue. He said that he would be meeting U.S. President Ronald Reagan in June and will "test the American credibility after asking the President: Will you uphold your promise to the Palestinians if they accept Security Council Resolution No 242?"

Regarding the Iraq-Iran War, the Moroccan king said that "there are some Arab states which are helping Iran with military ammunition while they should, at the least, stand by Iraq in their press, policy, and diplomacy. This is the minimum requirement." He expressed his belief that "the states which do not observe the joint Arab Defense Pact should leave the Arab League." He said that no one has the right to toy with the Arab League Charter and that the only freedom to be enjoyed by those who do not implement the Arab League Charter should their freedom to leave the league. Regarding the impact of the Iraq-Iran war on the situation in the Gulf states and in the Arabian Peninsula, King Hassan II said that "he still has fears for these states which to the north have the Arab-Israeli problems, to the east the Iraq-Iran war, to the south the events of Aden, and to the west the Sudanese-Sudanese and Sudanese-Ethiopian problems." He expressed fear that "the Arabian Peninsula could be transformed into strategic pockets as it is currently surrounded by a belt of problems and hot seas."

The Moroccan monarch praised the establishment of the GCC and said that the Gulf states have reached agreement among themselves and should be thanked for such a great achievement as they have given the rest of the Arab states an example of an acceptable form of cooperation.

King Hassan II said that some Arab states are bringing danger upon the Gulf states and causing incitement against them. This, he said, is alien to Arab honor and Arab nature. He added that the Arab states should not suffer from withholding favors; we Arabs belong to each other and are still brothers. He placed the responsibility for the current Arab situation on the revolutions which took place in the Arab world in the 50's and said that, in his opinion, these revolutions did not aim at changing the political form or personalities but at changing the state's spiritual and moral structure.

Regarding Spain and Portugal joining the European Common Market and the impact of this membership on Morocco, King Hassan II said that our European friends, particularly France, had undertaken during the past 3 years to maintain the trade balances between Morocco, Spain, and Portugal.

Regarding the question of the towns of Ceuta and Melilla and their recovery from Spain, the Moroccan monarch said that this issue does not need a green march but a march of determination, wisdom, and strong conviction. He expressed the hope that Spain would regain Gibraltar so that Morocco could regain Ceuta and Melilla.

SUDAN

Ethiopia Accused of Military Involvement in South

NC240838 Paris AFP in English 0835 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, March 24 (AFP) — Ethiopia is directly involved on the side of the rebels in southern Sudan, supplying logistical help and carrying out reconnaissance flights over the region, Sudanese Defence Minister Major-General 'Uthman 'Abdallah said in an interview published here Monday. He told the daily newspaper *AL-SAHAFAH* that Khartoum had lodged an official protest with the Addis Ababa authorities against the "continued penetration" of Sudanese airspace by Ethiopian military aircraft.

"Ethiopia is directly involved in military operations in south Sudan", Maj-Gen. 'Abdallah said. "Ethiopian aid to the rebel forces of Colonel John Garang is no longer restricted to financial and information help, but extended to included logistics and reconnaissance operations in the depty of south Sudan", he added.

"Any foreign interference in the south Sudan war and any attempts to escalate that conflict will lead the entire region to a disaster", Gen. Abdallah warned. He said Ethiopia's behaviour was "a flagrant and a deliberate violation committed in complete coordination with Col. Garang and his movement". "In military terms such violation is classified as direct involvement and has no other interpretations", the defence minister added. "This behaviour is a complete contradiction to the principles of good neighbourly relations and the respect of joint borders", he said. Gen. 'Abdallah denied reports that Sudan would invoke its defence pact with Egypt, adding, "we still hope Ethiopia will revise its position".

Sudan did not want to escalate the conflict between Khartoum and the rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement (SPLM), Gen. 'Abdallah said.

Ethiopian aircraft were reported this week to have entered Sudanese airspace to take supplies and other aid to the rebels round the town of Rumbek, which the SPLM captured earlier this month. Libya, once a supporter of the SPLM, has agreed to assist Khartoum, and Col. Garang charged last week that Tupolev TU-22 bombers, apparently Libyan, had raided Rumbek.

Chairman Rejects Using Defense Accord Against Garang

JN211043 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1021 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Mar (SUNA) — In a statement to SUNA here yesterday, General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab, chairman of the Transitional Military Council, asserted that the joint defense agreement with Egypt cannot be used against John Garang. He said the agreement stipulates that there should be an aggression by a foreign country in order to ask for help from the other party to the agreement. He said that John Garang and his group are Sudanese in the first place.

Further Details

JN231709 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1515 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Khartoum-Addis Ababa, 23 Mar (SUNA) — While the national dialogue conference between the National Alliance delegation and the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement continued its closed sessions in Ethiopia yesterday, no statement has been issued on the daily work of these exhaustive talks — talks through which the Sudanese hope that fruitful results will be reached to stop the fighting and bleeding in southern Sudan.

The newspaper *AL-AYYAM* issued here today cited General Siwar al-Dhahab, Transitional Military Council chairman, as welcoming the current negotiations in Ethiopia and stressing that the government, with its civilian and military parts, supports these negotiations. Siwar al-Dhahab said that the government has always worked for holding a dialogue with the Garang movement and that there are high hopes that the current talks will pave the way for fruitful dialogue.

Siwar al-Dhahab reiterated that the government will not resort to the joint defense agreement with Egypt to tackle the situation in southern Sudan as this agreement was concluded for bilateral cooperation in the event of external aggression on either country.

SPLA's Garang Addresses Addis Ababa Meeting

EA212238 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 21 Mar 86

["Text" of speech by Colonel Doctor John Garang de Mabior, commander in chief of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army, chairman of the Sudanese People's Liberation Movement Provisional Executive Committee; at 21 March meeting between SPLA-SPLM and National Alliance for National Salvation in Addis Ababa; words in Arabic in quotation marks — recorded]

[Excerpt] A few days later after your meeting, the political parties with the TMC [Transitional Military Council], the Military Council met alone and they made very serious resolutions. These resolutions, it is necessary for this meeting to know. The joint meeting of the TMC and Council of Ministers resolved the following. This is after (?your) [words indistinct]

1: That the war in the south must be intensified to teach the SPLA a lesson it shall never forget. This is "resolution" of the TMC. So while you come here to talk about peace, the people in Khartoum are talking about intensifying the war. And if they intensify the war, of course it will be intensified. Because we have the capability, we have the means also to intensify the war. Otherwise we would have not captured Rumbek, Yirol, and there would be no these problems.

As a footnote to this war "hysteria" of the TMC, I would like to mention in passing that "at this meeting of theirs," the minister of commerce and trade dissented from this view of intensifying the war. He said: "Fellows, (?it is all over)." North and south must be two separate countries. The minister (?actually said) the war only will bring disentegration and fragmentation after great loss of lives and bitterness. "Hence, why should we wait for the (?occurrence of) lots of loss of lives and bitterness? It is better for us to be separated." The minister of commerce, he added further that after dividing the country, the [word indistinct] will be how to divide the national assets and debts between the two (?sides). These are minutes of their meeting. Well, we have said (?this) and we are not secessionists. If anybody wants to separate even the north we will fight him because the Sudan must be one.

The second resolution was that it was reaffirmed that the question of arming the northern tribes has become most urgent and of paramount importance. The armed (?natives) would fight along and side by side with the Sudan Army. These tribes would be encouraged to harass their southern neighboring tribes with the view to destabilizing and impoverishing them by destroying their properties and looting their belongings and animals, with the overall aim of eventually depopulating northern Bahr Al Gazal and Bentiu and create a buffer zone between the north and the south.

Number 3: In order to intensify the war and keep it within the south, Maridi, in western Equatoria, will be the operational headquarters for the execution of the war. So that they are going to widen Maridi airport.

Number 4: Since Egypt is taking a neutral stand, the joint military protocol signed between Sudan and Libya is to come into effect at once. Al Ubayyid [Kurdufan Region] airport shall be closed to civilian traffic. This is a resolution they made. In return for this, Sudan shall immediately stop and withhold support to the Hissein Habre government and work instead for the overthrow of that government, and to cool relations with Egypt.

Number 6: To forestall and stop any possible help from Zaire to the southern rebels, that is us, on the grounds of what the meeting called possible racial solidarity, Sudan, through (?their) friends, will encourage and arm Zairean dissidents along the common border so that Zaire becomes preoccupied with its own problems.

Number 7: The resolution said since the new president of Uganda, Yoweri Museveni, are schoolmates and friends with Dr John [Garang], General Okello will be given sanctuary in southern Sudan and their army regrouped, reorganized and re-equipped to conduct guerrilla warfare against Museveni in northern Uganda and West Nile and, thereby, forestall Museveni from assisting Garang or force Museveni to cooperate with the Sudan against both Garang and the Okellos. So Gen Okello met Siwar al-Dhahab "on 12 March."

So these are resolutions which are important, which I thought are important for the meeting to be aware of because they impinge on our meeting. What I have just done is just a sample, a sample of ideas, a sample of ideas of the real situation. This is the situation we are in. This man, a Smith, when he wants to make spears, arrows, knives and axes from a local [words indistinct] he must create the necessary objective conditions. [passage indistinct] After that you can make a spear, you can make an arrow, you can make anything you like. So if we don't understand "our talk, our [words indistinct], our problem," if we do not understand it concretely and frankly, then we are going to fail [words indistinct].

This is why I read this thing. So that we are very crystal-clear about where we are and about the solutions, how to reach those solutions. [passage indistinct] Unless we create a new Sudan, we are in for a lot of trouble. And in order to appreciate this thing, we must say things as naked as they are, whether we like it or not, because this is our reality. And this is why I have this sample [example]. There are many other examples. So, as I said before, I have quoted Dr Jazuli, [Al-Jazuli Daf'allah, Sudanese prime minister]. I have quoted brother Al-Sadiq [Al-Mahdi, Ummah Party leader]. They could still have positive roles to play in the building of a new Sudan.

I pose the question, having explored the various views, is it possible to create a new Sudan? This is a central question for this conference, whether the formation of a new Sudan is feasible and possible. We have to explore if it is possible and feasible. If the answer is in the negative, then we (?should) pack our bags and we go away. But if the answer is in the positive, is in the attainable [as heard] that we can forge a new Sudan, then what is the agenda of this new Sudan?

This is why this preliminary dialogue was called. And I leave this to you to deliberate on. And I wish you success. As for me, who will not be attending the rest of the conference, I wish to leave you assured that I believe that the Sudanese have the will and courage to throw away all this sectarianism and start building a Sudanese civilization [words indistinct] start a new Sudan. I call on you [to] let the Sudan nucleate. Let us have a nucleus. We run to the Arabs, we run to the Africans. We stand in the middle. Let us nucleate as a nation with its own specific identity, not as a satellite of other nations, some of which are even more mediocre than the Sudan. We are and we can be a great people. And we can be a great civilization in our own right. We can do this.

I would also like briefly to address issues which preoccupy some of you maybe more than the building of a new Sudan. There are (?various urgencies) here — there is the issue for a [words indistinct] cease-fire. You will discuss it, but I believe that you will get nowhere because you are the National Alliance — we are in solidarity with you, we are not fighting you, we cannot cease fire with you, because we are not fighting you [laughter]. Rather we are fighting with the Transitional Military Council. Unless you are the representatives of the TMC it would be absurd, of course, to ask for a cease-fire, because the details of the cease-fire, what is happening, on the side of the SPLA, on the side of the TMC are more known to us than to you. You do not know that on 13, on 14, on 15 [month not specified] 50 bombs were dropped on us. Is this a (?natural) atmosphere to call for a cease-fire? (?Is) this a resolution that the war must be intensified in order to teach the SPLA a lesson it will not forget? Is this an atmosphere for a cease-fire? So, a cease-fire would be out of the question until we reach a viable solution, a solution that would be (?lacking). It is not on our side, it is on the side of the TMC.

The other issue is that of the present elections. This is the program of the TMC. Maybe they are going to form — (?if) we say May 2, maybe they are forming May 3 [regimes]. The process, in our thinking, the process has been a kind of a reverse. We would have thought that a conference like this would have been first necessary, the constitutional conference, before anybody talks about going for elections.

Of course, last time we said we understand why the National Alliance is in support of elections, and we support them also because your argument is that. "Fellows," this is the only way to get rid of these generals. This is a concrete reality. (?How do you) get rid of them? We in the SPLA, we [are] armed. We can get rid of them through fighting with them. "But you are an alliance," one of your weapons could be the election. It could be a means to turn them out.

But, of course, we cannot press them because we are not, as I said before, we are not priests. We are not here to bless something that Khartoum will do and say: We have held elections. That is all, "you (?come)." No, we are not going to do this. The logical thing would have been to hold a conference, like this. If the SPLM was to be involved in elections, we would be involved in the election commission and things would go logically. But when you hold elections and then you say as Taj al-Din [Deputy Commander in Chief of Sudanese Armed Forces] is saying — he said: "We will form a national government." This is an absurdity. They are a Transitional Military Council unless the people vote for them. "They do not have the [words indistinct] voice of the government that will be formed after the elections" unless they are voted in. Otherwise they don't have a say.

But when you start to smell things like this, like the Transitional Military Council talking about a government of national unity after the elections; when you ask them: What right do they have to talk about a government of national unity after the elections? "What is (?their right)? The deputy prime minister himself, his constituency," we are there. Now is he going to contest elections in his constituency? Mr Samuel Aru [Bol, a Dinka from southern Sudan], nothing personal, of course, but it is a fact that we are sitting in his constiuency. Now, who is he, ?or where) is he going to contest?

So, the elections are ridiculous as far as the SPLM is concerned. A government that comes up will be partial and whatever constitutional authority it will have will also be partial, and we will not be bound by its constitutionality. We must make this thing clear: We must be frank because "they messed up things." Instead of agreeing, we did things in reverse. We must say in advance that "the coming government" will have traces "of May."

The issue of the future relationship between the alliance and the SPLM is very important, irrespective of the outcome. Whether you agree or disagree, I want to say that we must always keep all doors open. First of all, I pleaded with you before to remain as an alliance, remaining as an alliance and keeping doors open for real dialogue, not propaganda dialogue and window-dressing and archaic ideas about the south. Here is "people of Sonia" [Socialist Organization of Darfur], what are you going to do with them? Are we going to hold a conference in order to solve the problems of Darfur? So a national conference is necessary.

In conclusion, as I have taken too much of the time — but then I will not be talking again tomorrow, you will be, so I have taken my time for today, for tomorrow and for next tomorrow. In conclusion, I would like to say that we are confident, I am confident. Do you work, it is your duty.

If you engage in schemes to maintain the old Sudan, I want to assure this meeting that this is unfeasible. It is unworkable. The old Sudan cannot be maintained in a new form. We must devise ways and means to arrive at a new Sudan, where we all respect each other. "They do not say: This is one that carries a bucket, and this one is from the south, and this one is a villager and this is an indigenous person. Who are we? We are all indigenous people." And so that all the programs change. "Every people should have a tongue. We should not only hear the tongue of the Arabs. Where is the tongue of the Nuer?" We want to make "the tongue of the Sudan." This is our concrete reality. [applause]

I thank you very much for listening very patiently to my small talk. I say this to encourage you, because without solving these things we are talking about, then we will not solve anything. So, let us concentrate on real issues and let us not take each other for granted. Thank you very much. [applause]

Further Details

EA222030 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The first official talks to solve the internal conflict in Sudan have been in progress between the SPLM, and the Sudanese Alliance for National Salvation [NASH] since Thursday [20 March] at the Ras Hotel in Koka.

Commenting on the forthcoming election in the country, the SPLM leader, Colonel John Garang, said in a press conference he held after the opening ceremony of the meeting that any elections held without the participation of the liberation movement could only be partial and incomplete, adding that the constitution would also be incomplete. He expressed the view that the current talks would lead towards an agreement, provided both sides were frank and made their views known. Garang said the SPLM stands for the Sudanese people's unity, the country's territorial integrity, and the formation of a new Sudan. He added that the SPLM is an organization struggling for a democratic system, respect for human rights, and the solving of racial and religious conflicts. The talks between the two sides have continued today.

Revolutionary Ethiopia firmly supports peace and brotherhood in Sudan and the region so that people can work together for common development. It is, accordingly, the wish and desire of the revolutionary government that the talks between the NASH and the SPLM achieve fruitful results. Revolutionary Ethiopia will not withold its share of cooperation toward bringing about the success of this good-will effort.

TUNISIA

Mzali Returns to Algiers, Comments on Talks

LD231315 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpt] President Habib Bourguiba conferred this morning at the presidential palace in Carthage with the prime minister and minister of interior, Mohamed Mzali, who was accompanied by the director of the Socialist Destourian Party, Hedi Baccouche, and Beji Caid Essebsi, member of the Political Bureau and foreign minister. The meeting was held in the presence of Mahmoud Belhessein, official at the presidency.

Mohamed Mzali made the following statement: [read by announcer] Immediately after our arrival in the homeland, after a stay of no longer than 24 [as heard] hours in fraternal Algeria, [words indistinct] contact the Supreme Combatant to inform him of the details of the positive talks which were held between us in our capacity as officials of the Political Bureau of the Socialist Destourian Party and brothers of the Algerian FLN. I conveyed a message of affection, appreciation and friendship to the Supreme Combatant from President Chadli Bendjedid.

Mohamed Mzali returned to Tunis from Algiers this morning. He was met at Tunis Carthage International Airport by some members of the government and the Political Bureau.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Congratulates CSSR on 17th Party Congress

EA231451 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT23 Mar 86

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam today sent a congratulatory message to Czechoslovak Communists, the country's workers, and participants in the 17th CPCZ Congress on the occasion of its opening. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee secretary general, Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] chairman and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces, in the message he sent on behalf of the WPE Central Committee, says that the resolutions to be adopted by the 17th CPCZ Congress would affect not only the political, economic and social progress of the brotherly people of the CSSR but would make important contributions toward international peace and security, which are of great concern to all international progressive forces. Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam says that in happily expressing its solidarity, the WPE Central Committee lauds the role performed by the CPCZ within the international communist movement and its contributions toward the prosperity and equality of workers and the safeguarding of international security. He expresses the WPE Central Committee's heartfelt desire for the success of the 17th CPCZ Congress.

A high-ranking revolutionary Ethiopian delegation, led by Comrade Fikre Selassie Wodgeress, WPE Central Committee Politburo member and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers arrived in Prague yesterday to attend the 17th CPCZ Congress.

Eritrean Council Calls for End to War

GF231447 Doha QNA in Arabic 1227 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Doha, 23 Mar (QNA) — The Eritrian National Council has asserted that it accepts the principle of negotiations with Ethiopia without preconditions through a unified delegation representing all Eritrian organizations in order to reach a just solution to the Eritrian problem satisfactory to the Eritrian people and which will assert their right to self-determination.

Meanwhile, the council has passed a military plan for the unified Eritrian liberation army to confront Ethiopia's 10th military campaign, currently mobilizing 100,000 troops equipped with the most modern weapons to liquidate the Eritrian issue and restore the liberated Eritrian rural areas.

At the end of its 5-day third conference held in the liberated rural areas, the council today called on international and human organizations to quickly intervene to stop the war of extermination being staged by Ethiopia against the Eritrian people.

This was stated to QNA by Mohamed Osman Abu Bakr representative of the Eritrian Liberation Front — the unified organization — to the Gulf region. He stated that the Eritrian National Council has charged the Executive Committee, led by Osman Saleh Sabbe, to take effective measures as part of a plan to achieve Eritrian national unity. He noted that the council has decided to establish national fund to take care of the martyrs' families, improve the conditions of refugees, and convene the national conference before the end of this year.

KENYA

Foreign Minister on Sharpville Massacre Anniversary

EA211211 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1040 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Kenya's Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr Elijah Mwangale has issued a statement on the occasion of the commemoration of the Sharpeville Massacre Day, today, the 21st March. This is the 26th anniversary of the Sharpeville Massacre by the racist regime in South Africa of black people opposed to the regime of apartheid.

In the statement, Mr Mwangale said, though this is the 26th year since the massacres were committed on 21st March 1960 the racist regime has not halted to suppress and oppress the black community of South Africa through suppression and tension. [sentence as heard] He said the situation in South Africa still deteriorates with the black community determined to gain equality in the country and the white ruling clique bent on refusing the blacks a say in their own country.

The minister said Kenya will contine to support the valiant sons and daughters of South Africa morally, materially and diplomatically until the racist system is dismantled.

SOMALIA

PRC President Li Xiannian Arrives 21 March

LD211553 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1415 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Summary] PRC President Li Xiannian, accompanied by his wife and a high-level delegation, arrived today at Mogadishu international airport. The Chinese president was welcomed at the airport by his host, President Siad Barre of Somalia. He was given a 21-gun salute. He then inspected an honor guard mounted by the SDR Armed Forces. The Chinese president is starting an official visit to Somalia.

Talks Begin 22 March

EA221531 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Official talks between the PRC and the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] opened in Mogadishu today at 0920 behind closed doors. The talks center on international political issues and the promotion of existing bilateral relations and cooperation. The SDR president, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and the PRC president, Comrade Li Xiannian, exchanged speeches during the opening of the talks. The two leaders touched on international issues and the strengthening of various forms of cooperation between the SDR and the PRC. Both leaders expressed satisfaction at the level of their current relations, which they described as friendly.

The SDR was represented at the talks by the first and second vice presidents, respectively Lieutenant General Mohamed Ali Samantar and Hussein Kulmie Afrah; trade and industry minister, Challe Abdalla Mohamed Fadil; information and national guidance minister, Challe Mohamed Omar Jess; Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre; the minister of state responsible for economic and political matters, Dr Abdullahi Ahmed Addou; deputy ministers and senior government officials.

The PRC delegation comprised Vice Premier Chen Muhua; Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister Qi Huaiyuan; the deputy minister for foreign affairs responsible for the economy and trade [title only as heard]; and the assistant to the foreign minister responsible for protocol, Tang Longbin.

Briefing the press after the commencement of the talks, SDR Information Minister Challe Omar Jess, said a joint technical committee had been formed which would initially continue in the talks with a view to promoting existing economic, cultural, technical and social cooperation. The Somali side of the technical committee is headed by Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre and the Chinese side by Chinese Vice Premier Chen Muhua. After completing its work the committee will report to Challe Siad Barre and Comrade Li Xiannian.

Somalia and the PRC enjoy long-standing economic, technical, cultural and social cooperation, which has existed since the sixties. The current state visit by Comrade Li Xiannian and his high-level-delegation will serve to strengthen bilateral cooperation.

Talks Held With Siad Barre

EA231633 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1115 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The president of the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and the president of the PRC, Li Xiannian, today held private talks lasting 1 hour at the presidential headquarters in Mogadishu. The two heads of state discussed the strengthening of the existing friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries and other issues relating to international problems, upon which the two presidents expressed identical views. Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and Li Xiannian indicated at their meeting that they were satisfied by the level of friendship between the two countries and peoples. Challe Siad expressed gratitude for the positive role the Chinese Government was performing in development programs in Somalia.

Economic Agreements Signed

EA232152 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 1700 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The official discussions taking place at the People's Hall in Mogadishu between the SDR and the PRC were formally concluded this afternoon in the presence of the presidents of the two countries, Challe Mohamed Siad Barre and Mr Li Xiannian. The talks on the further strengthening of relations [words indistinct].

Following the talks, the two governments signed economic cooperation agreements comprising a grant involving the installation of piped water by the PRC in a number of towns in Somalia and a loan totalling 50 million [word indistinct] equivalent to 17 million U.S. dollars to Somalia. The agreement was signed for Somalia by the foreign minister, Challe Abdurahman Jama Barre, and for China by the deputy prime minister, Chen Muhua. Under the grant part of the agreement, the PRC will install piped water in Jibile,[word indistinct], Borama and (Shaykh) and expand the water supply in Hargeysa [words indistinct]. Under the loan part of the agreement Somalia will start repayment of the 17 million dollar interest-free loan in 1996. The Somali Government will study and plan the projects to be implemented with the loan. Under the agreement the two governments are to collaborate in implementing fishery projects in Somalia.

UGANDA

Government To Rid Nation of 'Divisive Politics'

EA221751 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The minister of health, Dr Ruhakana Rugunda, has said that the 4-year interim period of the NRM [National Resistance Movement] government is meant for eradication of divisive politics of sectarianism, intrigue, and manipulation that have bedeviled the country for the last 20 years of (?flag) independence. The minister told the meeting of Kabale NRM supporters resident in Kampala that the period will bless intensive nationwide nonpartisan political activities geared at mobilizing the people of Uganda to the politics of unity and democracy. The meeting, which was also addressed by the minister of agriculture and forestry, Mr Robert Kitariko, and that of justice and attorney general, Mr Mulenga, expressed concern at the state of economy with various special infrastructures shattered from the (?techniques) of tyrannical and diabological regimes. They appealed to the people of Uganda to give time and (?resolve) support to the NRM government in its efforts [words indistinct] problems in building (?of Uganda). They also called upon the people to identify the enemies of democracy and national unity and isolate them from infiltrating their (?different) committee right from grassroots level. The meeting recognized that Kabal District is heavily endowed with mineral wealth, especially iron ore, which is an important (?national) factor in the NRM industrialization program, whose exploitation (?was) [words indistinct] used to the establishment of the iron and steel industry as indeed enshrined in the NRM's 10 10-point program.

UNLA Officers, Men Asked To Report to NRA Units

EA221743 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The Ministry of Defense has asked the public to report any former known UNLA [Uganda National Liberation Army] officer or soldier who has ignored its call to report to the nearest

NRA [National Resistance Army] unit or to any other government authority. This follows a recent ministry directive to all former UNLA officers and men who are not deployed by the NRA to report to the NRA headquarters in Republic House.

District Police Commander Calls for Arms Surrender

EA222125 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The NRM Government insists on the rule of law because it wants peace, unity, and progress in Uganda. Addressing elders at a (?big) meeting in (Nalioli) village, the district police commander, Kamuli, Mr (Gabriel Amagugu), told them to take wrong-doers to chiefs or police, who in turn will produce them before courts of law. He further urged people with illegal arms to surrender them to police or chiefs of the area and nothing will happen to them. He appealed to them to forget tribalism and political affiliations so as to build a united society.

Kenyan Weekly Cites Minister on External Debt

EA221548 Nairobi KENYA TIMES in English 22 Mar 86 p 1

[By David Musoke: "Uganda has Debt of 1 bn Shillings (as received])"

[Text] Kampala — Uganda's external debt now stands at about 1 billion U.S. dollars, a newly established government-owned English language weekly called *NEW VISION* has reported. Quoting the Uganda minister of finance, Prof Ponsiano Mulema, the weekly stated that this huge external debt did not impose big pressure on the country's economy.

Prof Mulema, formerly associate professor and head of Department of Commerce at Makerere university, told *NEW VISION* that although Uganda during deposed president Milton Obote's government borrowed heavily from the IMF to the tune of 300,000,000 U.S. dollars, it was not among the heavily indebted countries of the world. The IMF loans, which did not go for development, but financed the importation of consumer products, were currently being paid, he said. The IMF loans are short-term and cannot be rescheduled. The other loans, from the World Bank and the International Development Association (IDA) are intermediate and long term amounting to over 700,000,000 U.S. dollars. But they are generally soft loans and do not impose any constraints on Uganda, the minister told *NEW VISION*.

He added that the Uganda Government did not intend to borrow from the IMF until new terms have been associated. An IMF team was expexcted shortly in the country, though Prof Mulema said that this was a normal periodic visit of the IMF officials to member states.

On foreign assistance, he said the international community had been sympathetic to Uganda's plight and although the emergency relief and rehabilitation programme had been announced only a few days ago, there was a lot of support from donors.

Prof Mulema said that Uganda was planning to hold two donors conferences — one in Uganda and another in Paris. The local donors meeting would be with the representatives of the donor community based in Uganda. These include the World Bank, the EEC, government and other aid agencies.

He told *NEW VISION* that a package of economic policies to stabilise the exchange rate of the Uganda shilling and contain the inflationary spiral would soon be out. A full implementation of the package would help in determining the exact exchange rate of the Uganda shilling whose floating stopped and the U.S. dollar was now at fixed rate of Uganda shs. 1,470, the ruling price at the last publicised auction before Kampala fell to President Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army, he said.

Prof Mulema criticised Obote's economic policies which were backed by the IMF, saying that they could not correct the 15-year economic malaise that had gripped the country. Instead, he said, Obote's policies fanned inflation, retarded rehabilitation efforts and could not help improve the people's condition of living.

AFP: Bandits Attack Entebbe Meteorological Station

AB231219 Paris AFP in French 1134 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Kampala, 23 Mar (AFP) — On Saturday morning about 15 bandits attacked the Entebbe meteorological station to the south of Kampala, before they were repulsed by 5 soldiers of the National Resistance Army [NRA], the Ugandan radio announced on Sunday quoting President Yoweri Museveni who [words indistinct] after the incident.

According to the radio, the residence of a certain Mr Kirya, also in Entebbe, was also attacked but the attackers were repulsed. Ugandan radio did not state if this person was Balaki Kirya, minister of state attached to the Presidency. These events take place at a time when there is a resurgence of violence in Uganda, less than 2 months after the coming to power of Mr Museveni and the NRA.

CAMEROON

Assembly Speaker Muna Heads Delegation to Rabat

AB201644 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The speaker of the National Assembly, Honorable Solomon Tandeng Muna, is in Rabat, Morocco, at the head of a Cameroonian delegation to attend the Afro-Arab parliamentary dialogue scheduled to take place from March 21 to 23. The Cameroonian delegation is expected to participate actively in the discussions and Hon S.T. Muna is also expected to make an official statement.

CHAD

Cabinet Reshuffle Announced 23 March

AB231948 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Decree reshuffling the Chadian Government issued on 23 March in Ndjamena; read by Youssouf Sidi Sougou, secretary general of the government — live]

[Text] Decree reshuffling the government. Considering the Fundamental Act [constitution] of the Republic; considering the decree No 025PTR/SGCO-82 of 18 September 1982 on the publication of the Fundamental Act of the Republic, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article 1. The following persons have been appointed cabinet members:

Minister of State: Djidingar Dono Ngardoum;

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation: Gouara Lassou;

Minister of Interior and Territorial Administration: Ibrahim Mahamat Etno;

Minister of Justice and Keeper of the Seal: (Nede Guedo);

Minister of Mines and Energy: (Abdel Moussato);

Minister of Public Works, Housing and Town-Planning: Moussa (Kadha);

Minister of National Education: Mahamat Senoussi (Hakia);

Minister of Finance and Data Processing:(Ngakhina Rodonar Ngaroungar);

Minister of Food Security and Disaster-Hit Population: Taher Abdel-Djelil;

Minister of Animal Husbandry and Water Resources: Tahar Guinassou;

Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development: Baniara Yoyama;

Minister of Public Health: Mahamat Nour Malaye;

Minister of Tourism and Environment: (Mbayinnour Naimbaye Lossounian);

Minister of Posts and Telecommunications: Assileck Halata;

Minister of Civil Service: Routouang Yoma;

Minister of Labor, Employment and Vocational Training: Oudalbaye Nahama;

Minister of Trade and Industry: Harouna Abdoulaye;

Minister of Social Affairs and Women's Condition: Mrs (Yonatou Rongar);

Minister of Transports and Civil Aviation: Abdourhamane (Hari Abdoul);

Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports: Djibril (?Idriss Yousouf);

Minister Delegate to the President in Charge of Planning: Soumaila Mahamat;

Minister Adviser to the President: (Ouanousse Moissala);

Secretary of State to the President in Charge of Information and Orientation: (Nouhounor Segue Nanouldji);

Secretary of State to the President in Charge of General Inspectorate and State Control: (Harouna Godidji);

Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation: Hamed Korom;

Secretary of State for the Interior and Territorial Administration: (Ngarba Moamba);

Secretary of State for National Education: Djinalde (?Mbailaoule);

Secretary of State for Finance and Data Processing: Ibrahim (Tahif);

Secretary of State for Food Security and Disaster-Hit Population: Kah Nadji Yamarke;

Secretary of State for Agriculture and Rural Development: Seid Bauchi;

Secretary of State for Public Health: (Siaye Tekoure);

Secretary of State for Trade and Industry: Amos Reoulengar;

Secretary General of the Government: Youssouf Sidi Sougoumi;

Deputy Secretary General of the Government: (Mbayidao Zeral Moyi);

Article 2. The Ministry of National Defense, Veterans Affairs and War Victims is now held by the president of the republic.

Article 3. The present decree, which takes effect as of the signing date, will be published in the *JOURNAL OFFICIEL* of the republic and issued where needed.

Issued in Ndjamena on 23 March 1986

[Signed] El-Hadj Hissein Habre

National Consultative Council Reshuffled

AB232103 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Decree reshuffling the Chadian National Consultative Council issued on 23 March in Ndjamena; read by Youssouf Sidi Sougou, the secretary general of the government — live]

[Text] Decree reshuffling the National Consultative Council. Considering the Fundamental Act [constitution] of the republic; considering the decree No. 025PTR/ SGCO-82 of 18 September 1982 on the publication of the Fundamental Act of the republic, the president of the republic, head of state and chairman of the Ministerial Council decrees the following:

Article 1. The following designated persons have been appointed National Consultative Council members:

Administrative Divisions:

Datha: (Mahamad Saleh Ahmad); (Mohamed Audoume Pererei);
Biltine: (Ismail Issouf); (Dahat Ahmed Terra);
Borgou-Ennedi-Tibesti: (Issa Hamid); (Saleh Adei);
Chari-Baguirmi: (Taleh Ramadan); (Mahamat Bahid Hassan);
Gorang: (Ahmed Ali M'uammar Rey); (Idriss Ourai);
Tare: (Hachir Youle); (Ali Ouderai);
Ouaddai: (Abdel Tarib Regalhat); (Ousmar Sidibi);
Lac: (Oumar Jeffa Kadjalale); (Abbakar Houre);
Logone Occidentale: (Djekoula Ndiaye de Djera Goussi); (Kalo Label);
Logone Orientale: (Mbayafdo Abdoul Elaoudite);
Mayo Kebir: (Niadeta Ngororan); (Douga Krio Kinini);
Moyen Chari: (Goudou Simfo); (Loufa Torbel);
Kalala: (Hassan Amaphat Outlaye); (Abin Karim Hassan Haitai);
Tabiriou: (Abdoulaye Bulgat); (Arouna Damien);
Ndjamena Hospital [words indistinct] (Hadjid Lawal Mahaji).

This present decree, effective as of the signing date, shall be published in the *JOURNAL OFFICIEL* of the republic and issued where needed.

Issued in Ndjamena on 23 March, 1986

[Signed] El-Hadj Hissein Habre

Libyan Prisoners Presented in Ndjamena to Press

AB222208 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The prisoners of war of the Libyan annexationist army were presented this afternoon to the national and international press. The ceremony was held in the conference hall of the State House and was presided over by the minister delegate to the president of the republic in charge of information, Soumaila Mahamat. National Education Minister Abba Siddick was also present at the ceremony.

This was another occasion to make clear through Libyans themselves the real designs of their terrorist leader, Al-Qadhdhafi, on Chad. The truth which emerged from the replies to questions put by the newsmen is that Libyans do not agree with Al-Qadhdhafi's policy in Chad. He has been using force to recruit Libyan citizens. However, the prisoners acknowledged that they are soldiers by career, which once again underscores the massive involvement of the Libyan regular army in the fighting.

In their often contradictory, but enriching statements, the Libyan prisoners of war acknowledge that Libya is in charge of law and order in the north of Chad. On Goukouni Oueddei, they said they do not know him, adding that they take orders directly from Libyan military officers. Now listen to the recording of the ceremony which took place this afternoon. First, the minister delegate to the president in charge of information made a preliminary statement.

[Begin recording] [Mahamat] (?Ladies and gentlemen) of the press, we are presenting Libyan was prisoners to you. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified prisoner in Arabic followed by French translation] All the Libyan people condemn the annexation of Chad.

[Unidentified journalist] [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified prisoner in Arabic followed by French translation] We have plans to follow. Under our training program we have to teach teams of seven. We were surprised when we arrived because we were not taught how to train.

CONGO

Cabinet States Budget To Be Reduced by 50 Percent

AB221735 Dakar PANA in English 1720 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Brazzaville, 22 March (ACI/PANA) — Conglese budget which was originally fixed at 417.4 billion CFA will be reduced to almost 50 percent. A brief statement issued on Friday after a cabinet meeting said that the readjustment was due to the drastic fall in the price of oil and the low exchange rate of the American dollar.

The statement added that the budget which was adopted last December also took into account the structural adjustment programme aimed at reducing public expenditure. According to Congolese information, posts and telecommunications minister, Christian Gilbert Bembet, a bill to this effect will be presented to the coming National Assembly administration session for adoption.

Public expenditure will be reduced from 331.3 billion CFA to 164.8 billion CFA, and investment expenditure from 112.6 billion CFA to 56.4 billion CFA. However, the statement said that this reduction would not affect salaries and other necessary expenditures, adding "everything was done to maintain a smooth running of the government". Congolese leader Denis Sassou-Nguesso announed the government's intention to reduce the budget on March 10 during the 6th Congress of the Congolese Revolutionary Womens Union (URFC).

ZAIRE

Former UNITA Hostages Begin To Arrive in Kinshasa

AB201420 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 20 (AFP) — Philippine and British nationals kidnapped and then released by anti-government guerrillas in Angola have arrived in the Zairian capital of Kinshasa to be flown to Portugal, Lisbon's ambassador to Zaire Alvaro Guerra said Thursday.

Mr. Guerra told the Portuguese ANOP news agency that the rest of the 197 former hostages would be arriving in Kinshasa later in the day from Kapanga, near the Angolan border, where UNITA rebels opposed to Luanda's leftist government released them on Saturday. He said the freed captives, who include 94 Portuguese and 92 Filipinos, would leave the Zairian capital later Thursday aboard a Lockheed Tristar aircraft chartered by the Portuguese Foreign Ministry. The aircraft left Lisbon Thursday morning.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) earlier announced that the process of bringing the hostages from Kapanga to Kinshasa had got underway. The ICRC, which played a key role in securing the release of the hostages, said they would be turned over to their respective authorities after arriving in Lisbon.

The foreigners, who also included four Britons, two West Germans and four people of unidentified nationality, were captured on March 1 at the Andrada Diamond Mining Complex in northeast Angola by guerrillas of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA). The guerrillas originally intended to march them some 2,000 km (1,200 miles) to their headquarters in the southeastern town of Jamba, but decided to take them to Zaire in view of logistical problems and an attack launched by Angolan Government troops.

Hostages Found in Shaba Area

AB221426 Paris AFP in French 1325 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 Mar (AFP) — Fourteen foreign hostages captured on 1 March 1986 by the UNITA (armed opposition to Luanda) in the diamond-mining town of Andrada in northeastern Angola, have been found in the Zairian town of Tshikapa, in Kasai Oriental Region, reliable sources disclosed in Kinshasa on Saturday.

The 14 people, some Filipinos and Portuguese, will be repatriated to Lisbon soon, the same source added. It will be recalled that last Thursday 196 hostages caught by UNITA were evacuated by the International Red Cross to Kapanga in Zaire's Shaba Province southwest of Tshikapa, near the Portuguese capital. [as received]

Pascal Luvualu, special envoy of Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos to Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko, said in connection with this issue that "the hostage affairs would not affect the relations of good neighborliness between Luanda and Kinshasa, after the explanations given by the Zairian Government to the Angolan authorities." According to Mr Luvualu, who was quoted by Zairian television, President Mobutu gave him "ample explanations about the issue" then concluded that it was an action being carried out by the International Red Crosss and UNITA without the knowledge of the Zairian authorities.

It is recalled at Kinshasa that the Zairian Government firmly reacted to the entry into its territoy of UNITA members who were escorting 196 hostages and ordered that they be disarmed and sent back home.

Further Details

AB221849 Paris AFP in English 1828 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Kinshasa, 22 Mar (AFP) — In Lisbon, a Portuguese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Saturday that a group of 14 Portuguese working in Angola had fled the country into Zaire since the kidnapping. The 14, including six children, fled into Zaire's southern province of Shaba and intended to stay there with local Portuguese, he added.

The Portuguese authorities did not know exactly where they had crossed the border or where they were staying, and it was not known whether they had been among the people kidnapped by UNITA or whether they were simply leaving Zaire to avoid being abducted in their gurn. Shaba Province is well to the south of the place where the 14 Filipinos and Portuguese former hostages turned up.

BURKINA FASO

CEAO Council Meeting Ends With Communique

AB212138 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The 22d session of the Council of Ministers of the CEAO [West African Economic Community] and the 15th session of the Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community, FOSIDEC, ended this afternoon in Ouagadougou. Mathieu Bonkonou has the details:

The Council of Ministers meeting which opened last Monday, was chaired by Comrade Damo Justin Barro, Burkina's minister of financial resources and current chairman of the CEAO Council of Ministers and the FOSIDEC board of directors. Here is the press communique issued at the end of the 22d session of the CEAO Council of Ministers meeting and the 15th session of the FOSIDEC board of directors.

[Begin recording of unidentified speaker] The CEAO secretary general, after defining the framework within which the ministerial deliberations should be held, said that in this present turbulent world where selfishness is ever increasing, subregional organizations remain the only fora for the advent of a strong and viable African community. Before the solemn opening of the deliberations, the current chairman of the CEAO Council of Ministers affirmed that positive results were achieved during Burkina's term of office.

The Council of Ministers adopted the reports of the 20th and 21st ministerial council meetings and took note of the report on the activities of the secretary general for 1984 and 1985. By approving — with some amendments — the results of the 35th session of the committee of experts, the Council of Ministers showed a great interest for the alternative mechanism set up to ensure the permanent and autonomous financing of the community's activities. [end recording]

GHANA

Eighty Dissidents Recruited in Anti-Rawlings Plot

AB211832 Paris AFP in French 1736 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Accra, 21 Mar (AFP) — More than 80 Ghanaians were on board a ship of which the name is unknown and which maintained close contact with the *Nabicotor*, a tug flying the Panamanian flag and loaded with arms and amunition which was found around north of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, it was reported Thursday [20 March] by a spokesman of the Ghanaian Government.

According to the spokesman, who quoted Brazilian military sources in Rio, the group of rebels were to tranship the ammunition loaded before sailing towards the Ghanaian coast to participate in an attempt to overthrow Flight Lieutenant Jerry Rawlings, the Ghanaian president. The plot against Jerry Rawlings was discovered on Friday, it is recalled, on the occasion of the seizure on board the ship of a consignment of 6 tons of military equipment and weapons made in Argentina and which the ship was to take down to Ghana. The weapons and the ammunition were bought in Argentina by a group of Ghanaian dissidents led by one Godfrey Osei, according to the ship's captain. The captain also stated that, like the Argentina authorities, he was misled about the true intentions of Godfrey Osei who alleged during the negotiotiations that he was an official emissary of the Ghanaian defense ministry.

Godfrey Osei, 40, was many times involved in coup d'etat (?attempts) aimed at overthrowing (?the regime) of President Rawlings, it is recalled. According to Ghanaian sources, he resided in the United States where he carries out "subversive activities," in connection with foreign intelligence services. The *Nabicotor*'s crew — 10 seamen of Argentine nationality, eight North Americans commanded by one John Dee Early — have confessed to the Brazilian investigators that they are mercenaries recruited in the United States by a group of Ghanaian opponents.

On its part, Radio Accra recently blamed the BBC and the Voice of America for the "biased" way those radios accounted for the episode, therefore, showing the close collaboration existing between the intelligence services and the Western countries' press.

Possible Expulsion of Crew

AB211837 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The 18 American and Argentine crew of the ship seized carrying arms and ammunition bound for Ghana, might be expelled from Brazil. In an interview, the Brazilian police director, Mr Romey said keeping the men in prison in Brazil will not be the best solution. He said they are still investigating but if the 18 crew members are found guilty, it will be best to expell them. Following a trip off by the Ghana ambassador to Brazil, the vessel which was transporting arms and ammunition bought by Ghanaian dissidents, was seized by the Brazilian authorities. The arms were intended to be used to destabilize the Ghana revolution.

Government Prepares Program To Equip Air Force

AB220822 Accra Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The government has drawn up a 10-year program to rehabilitate and equip the Ghana Air Force. This was announced by the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council] member responsible for defense, Alhaji Idrissu, when he addressed officers and men of the Air Force in Accra. He said the government's priority in this program would be the initial purchase of aircraft and the training of Air Force personnel. Alhaji Idrissu stated that public corporations which were expected to bring in revenue but have failed to do so are to blame for the government's inability to service the military and other infrastructure promptly. He said the PNDC would have by now made greater success in its economic recovery effort, but for the greed of those who seek office only to enrich themselves at the expense of the poor taxpayer. Alhaji Idrissu asked soldiers to take good care of the aircraft and other equipment they have since they were imported with hard-earned foreign exchange.

LIBERIA

Eleven Public Corporations To Be Privatized

AB231745 Paris AFP in English 1623 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 23 (AFP) — Eleven Liberian public corporations are to be "wholly or partially" privatized in the "interest of the Liberian nation and its people", a government communique said here Sunday [23 March] following the passing of a bill by the legislature.

They include the corporations responsible for electricity supply, telecommunications, water and sewarage, oil refining, public transport in Monrovia and the National Port Authority.

The other state-owned bodies affected are the Liberia Produce Marketing Corporation, Air Liberia, Hotel Africa, the Ducor Hotel and the Mesurado Group of Companies.

The government is inviting all interested individual and businessmen at home and abroad to submit applications to the bureau of state enterprises, the communique from State House, the president's office, said.

It said government found it expedient to privatize these public corporations to improve their "productivity, efficiency and to enable them to contribute meaningfully to the overall economic development of the country."

The communique said government hoped all Liberians and "our partners in progress would take advantage of this opportunity."

Ten Opposition Legislators Resign From Party

AB221111 Paris AFP in English 0735 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Monrovia, March 22 (AFP) — Two senators and eight representatives of the opposition Liberia Action Party (LAP) have resigned from the party in response to an ultimatum by its Executive Committee to quit parliament or be expelled from party ranks.

The committee accused them of contravening the party's decision to boycott the legislature in protest against alleged fraud in the October 15 national polls which declared President Samuel Doe the winner, with his National Democratic Party of Liberia (NDPL) obtaining 72 seats.

In a statement read at a press conference here Thursday [20 March], the ten legislators, including LAP's controversial former chairman Senator Tuan Wreh, said they were forced to resign by the ultimatum. They said they had accepted their seats in the "supreme interest of national peace and harmony. "We are not prepared to forfeit our seats, because we were genuinely elected," they added. To resign from the legislature was "contemptous betrayal of the people we represent and tantamount to denying us a voice in the legislature", they said. They denied LAP charges that they were given "allotted seats" in the legislature by the Special Elections Commission, which supervised the October poll. "We campaigned hard and won our seats," they said. They would now become "independent opposition in the legislature and have no intention to cross the carpet to join the ruling NDPL"

The opposition Unity Party, which gave a similar ultimatum to its members who accepted legislative seats or positions in government to resign by March 12, said it had expelled John Lansana, Ruth Perry and Abdul Kiawo for failing to meet the deadline.

In a related development, Justice Minister Jenkins Scott described as "irresponsible" anonymous leaflets circulating here calling for the resignation of President Doe and key officials, including the ministers of justice, defence and internal affairs, as well as the chief of staff of the army and the president protempore of the senate. Mr Scott said he had "security information" that Secretary-General Peter Bonner Jallah of the "grand coalition" of the three opposition parties had authored the leaflets, and that he and his "cohorts are bent on plunging Liberia into chaos and confusion" by the resignation call.

Opposition Coalition Calls For Reelections

AB212223 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Excerpts] The grand coalition formed recently by three opposition parties in Liberia, has been addressing itself to current political issues in the country. The leaders of the three parties constituting the coalition, speaking at a press conference in Monrovia today, called for reelections in Liberia. The statement was read by the vice chairman of the coalition, Jackson F. Doe of the Liberia Action Party, LAP.

[Begin Doe recording] It was because of our total lack of confidence in the credibility of SECOM [Special Election Commission] that we objected to the results announced by Mr Harmon [SECOM chairman]. Mr Harmon and his colleagues did not have the common courtesy to look into questions raised in our joint statement, in spite of his own admission of fraud and irregularities in the elections. Instead, he went ahead to declare the results. Members of the press, with the exception of God's power, no power is greater than the people's power. Let me repeat, with the exception of God's power, no powr is greater than the people's power. But the power of the people can only be expressed through unity. It is ironic too that individuals who were once chieftains or champions of the people's cause are now the principal suppressors of the people.

In the words of Abraham Lincoln: you can fool some of the people all of the time, all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time. Unquote. [end recording]

Later, before the three opposition leaders answered questions from reporters today, Jackson F. Doe said they were calling off their planned meeting because they do not want to defy the law. Here now is the vice chairman:

[Begin Doe recording] For the mass rally, (?we could have carried out) but in the interest of our people and in the interest of all of us, this rally has been called off. As all of you here know, we are law-abiding people. If the writ had not been served, we would've decided to continue the rally but the fact that the writ was served, we do not want to defy the court. This is why we called off the rally. [end recording]

Thai Delegation Arrives To Explore Possible Links

AB212156 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] An 11-man delegation from the Kingdom of Thailand is currently in Liberia to discuss the possibility of establishing bilateral, economic, and trade links with the government and business establishments in the country. According to the head of the delegation, Sub-Lieutenant Prappas [Limpabhandu], deputy foreign minister, their visit was in line with discussions held between the Thai foreign minister and former Liberian foreign minister, T. Ernest Eastman in New York last September. The delegation is composed of representatives from the Thai Ministries of Commerce and Economic Planning as well as the Thai Rice Development Corporation and the private sector.

Commission Will Probe Student Violence Outbreak

AB201940 Paris AFP in English 1505 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Monrovia, March 20 (AFP) — A nine-member commission of (?Inquiry) has been appointed by President Samuel Doe to investigate Tuesday's riot by thousands of public school students, according to an Information Ministry statement released on late Wednesday.

The commission, which will recommend means to prevent recurrences of disorder, is headed by university professor Namuh Manley with Roman Catholic Bishop Michael Francis as co-chairman. Other members include teachers, politicians and police. The commission has been given wide powers of subpoena and inspection and told to report back to the cabinet within two weeks, the (?ministry statement) added. A senate commission is also investigating the riots.

The ministry also said that last Tuesday's student rampage left 25 soldiers hospitalised and caused damage running into thousands of dollars to public and private property.

NIGER

Libyan Delegation Arrives, Cooperation Discussed

AB201946 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A Libyan delegation led by Colonel (Abdel-Fehri Libi) arrived this morning in Agadez where it was welcomed by Lieutenant Colonel (Bagni Mehdou) the prefect of the district. The Libyan delegation and the Niger authorities held a working session aimed at strengthening the fraternal and good-neighborly relations existing between Libya and neighboring countries. The meeting was also aimed at demarcating the borders inherited from colonial times and those according to the Charter of the Organization of African Unity.

Delegation Ends Visit, Departs

AB230739 Niamey Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] The working session between the Libyan and Niger delegations, which began last Thursday, ended yesterday at Agadez. The Libyan delegation, led by Colonel (Abdel-Fehri Libi), left Agadez yesterday afternoon for home. The closing ceremony of the meeting took place in the presence of the prefect of Agadez, Lieutenant Colonel (Bagni Mehdou).

NIGERIA

Military Chief Receives DPRK Foreign Minister

AB210750 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] The chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, has stressed the need for increased cooperation between North Korea and Nigeria. He said areas that could be developed were agriculture, river basins, fishing, and shipping. Commodore Ukiwe said though the two countries were developing nations, Nigeria could still benefit from North Korean experience especially in the shipping industry.

The chief of General Staff, who was speaking when the North Korean foreign minister, Mr Kim Yong-nam, paid him a courtesy call today, also suggested the expansion of trade between the two countries. In a speech, Mr Kim called for intensification of the South-South dialogue.

Support for Korean Unification Pledged

AB201952 Dakar PANA in English 1746 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Lagos, 20 March (NAN/PANA) — Nigeria has reiterated its support for the re-unification of North and South Korea.

At a dinner in Lagos last night in honour of the visiting vice premier and foreign minister of North Korea, Mr Kim Yong-nam, Nigeria's minister of external affairs, Prof Bolaji Akinyemi, expressed Nigeria's continued support for any effort aimed at easing tension and building greater confidence on the government and peoples of Korean Peninsula.

Prof Akinyemi said that the elimination of the "obnoxious system of apartheid in South Africa" and the establishment of a new international economic order were of concern to both Nigeria and North Korea. The failure so far to establish a new system of international economic and monetary relations in place of the existing system "that has weighted against the true interest of developing countries" was directly attributable to the lack of resolve and political will on the part of the developing nations, the minister said. He expressed the belief that the time had come for greater commitment to the possibilities that exist for cooperation on a South-South dimension.

Replying, Mr Kim expressed the same desire for greater South-South cooperation. He is expected to leave Lagos for Dakar tomorrow.

Nigeria established diplomatic relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in 1976.

Ebitu Ukiwe Receives Benin, Togo Ministers

AB210810 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] A joint message from the presidents of the Republic of Benin and Republic of Togo was received today by the chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, on behalf of President Ibrahim Babangida. The message was brought by the foreign ministers of the two countries. Commodore Ukiwe said that if agreements reached between Nigeria and her neighbors were followed, problems of theft, smuggling, and other antisocial activities would be reduced.

The Togolese foreign minister, Mr Koffi Amega, said that without security there will be no development and expressed the two countries' appreciation to Nigeria for reopening her land borders. The envoy called for a ministerial conference to ratify the December 1984 agreement entered into by the countries concerned.

SAO TOME & PRINCIPE

Political Opposition Announces Coalition Formed

AB210842 Paris AFP in English 0737 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Lisbon, March 21 (AFP) — Two Sao Tome and Principe political movements said here Thursday [20 March] they had formed a Democratic Coalition of Opposition (CDO) to fight for "honest" general elections in the West African former Portuguese colony.

They are the National Resistance Front and the Democratic and Independent Union. They accused the one-party regime in power since independence in 1975 of being totalitarian, and said they accepted "recourse to armed struggle to free the people from their chains."

SENEGAL

Diouf Returns, Reports on FRG, Austria Visits

AB212246 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] The head of state, President Abdou Diouf, returned to Dakar this afternoon from a trip which took him successively to Austria and the FRG. He was welcomed by members of government, the president of the Economic and Social Council, and deputies and members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Dakar. Speaking to the press, President Abdou Diouf stated that he was satisfied with the outcome of his trip.

[Begin Diouf recording] In fact, I paid a state visit to Austria and a working visit to the FRG. The two visits went well and were held under good conditions. The authorities whom I met — heads of state and government or prime ministers, government officials, ministers, and leaders of the various provinces of Austria and the FRG — received me with much kindness, open-mindeness, and willingness. And one can clearly see that Senegal's image is high in these two countries.

As you have said, our discussions were divided into two parts. The first part was devoted to the strengthening of bilateral cooperation and the consolidation of friendship existing between Senegal and Austria on one hand, and Senegal and the FRG on the other. Obviously, this part was the simplest side — the easiest side. The competent ministers accompanying me noticed the excellence of the relations we maintain with these two friendly countries. Obviously, during the second part of our discussions, I wore the hat of the OAU chairmanship and I touched on the major problems of our continent, especially as it was on the eve of the special session — which comes on within a few weeks — the special UN session on Africa's difficult economic situation. I made my listeners aware of the importance Africa attaches to this conference and of the need to prerpare it well, both by Africans and their partners and the international community. I must say with great satisfaction that I discovered that my listeners were already well informed. They are very much aware of these problems, very willing to help us, and very desirous to attend this special session in order to enable us to draw the maximum benefit from it — not only immediate benefits, but lasting benefits that may lead to the recovery and the improvement of Africa's economy.

As you can imagine, I also touched on the other political issues. Political problems in Africa are quite numerous. The problems of Chad and the problems of Western Sahara. We also discussed the problems of southern Africa — of course — the problems of South Africa and Namibia. On these topics also, my listeners and I shared the same views on the essential points, that is to say, on the aims and objectives to be attained concerning the independence of Namibia and the eradication of apartheid in the shortest possible time. Of course, we cannot have the same views on the methods to be used in order to attain these objectives. However, these views were nearer each other during the discussions we held during the visit, and I am hopeful that if all the African heads of state and not only the current chairman of the OAU, have the habit of touching on all these cardinal problems with much frankness and seriousness during their discussions with our partners in the international community, especially the countries of the North, I am sure we can manage to change a lot of things. .. but as you know, in politics, things do not change easily.

In all, it was a fruitful trip. Of course, as you can see, it was long and quite tiresome — physically — because we visited two countries. We had a break between our visits to Austria and the FRG, but (?this did not reduce our responsibilities at home and we have to return home). It was necessary, because, if it were not so, we would have spent more time there whereas there were other duties awaiting us in Senegal — there are other African international tasks awaiting us. [end recording]

N. Korean Foreign Minister Arrives on Visit

AB220945 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] Kim Yong-nam, DPRK vice premier and foreign minister, arrived in our capital last night. He was welcomed on arrival by his Senegalese courterpart, Ibrahima Fall, and the minister of urban planning and housing, Alioune Diagne Coumba Aita. Other personalities present at the airport included the Soviet ambassador to Senegal. Speaking to Tidiane Barry, the minister spoke about the purpose of his visit.

[Begin Kim recording in Korean followed by French translation] The friendly relations of cooperation existing between our two peoples have been developing excellently for a long time now. Our two countries are independent, sovereign and members of the Nonaligned Movement. Senegal has an important role to play since it has assumed the OAU chairmanship, and it attaches much importance to her friendship and cooperation with our country. The purpose of our visit is to further develop and strengthen the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation existing between our two countries. [end recording]

Received By Counterpart

AB230938 Dakar Domestic service in French 2000 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Excerpt] The DPRK vice premier and minister of foreign affairs was today the guest of honor at a dinner hosted by his Senegalese counterpart, Ibrahima Fall. Present at the dinner were Alioune Diagne Coumba Aita, minister of housing, Famara Ibrahim Sagna, minister of rural development, members of parliament as well as the dean of the diplomatic corps. In the toast proposed on this occasion, the Senegalese foreign minister indicated that this visit marked an important stage.

[Begin Fall recording] Your visit, Mr Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs, in fact, marks an important stage in the strengthening and broadening of the friendly relations which have always characterized the cooperation between Senegal and the DPRK.

The fruitful discussions that we have had since your arrival in Senegal yesterday enables us to envisage with optimism the future of this bilateral cooperation. I am convinced that with the determination and political will which animate us, the dynamic and multi-dimensional cooperation that we are building could serve as example for another common consideration which is of particular importance to us, namely South-South cooperation. [end recording]

In his response, the head of the North Korean diplomacy, Kim Yong-nam, underscored the good relations existing between Korea and our country in spite of the distance between them.

[Begin Kim recording in Korean followed by French translation] Even though Korea and Senegal are situated on two different continents — Asia and Africa — our two peoples are closely linked by our common history and the similarity of the prevailing situations in our countries. [end recording]

ANGOLA

'Text' of Dos Santos Message to UN Head

MB221259 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
1200 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Message from Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, to Javier Perez de Cuellar, the UN secretary general, "recently" and "adopted in New York as an official document of the United Nations"]

[Text] Your Excellency: The Angolan people have been tenaciously opposing the occupation of our national territory in the south of the country by the armed forces of the Pretoria regime. The defense against the systematic acts of aggression carried out by these forces has been the cause of considerable additional military expenses, enormous military losses, as well as losses in human life to the People's Republic of Angola.

The direct military intervention by the South African Armed Forces is complemented by the subversive actions mounted by Angolan traitors who are organized, (?led) and supported by the South African Government both in military logistics, as well as financially, politically, and diplomatically with the aim of imposing by use of force political changes in a sovereign state which is a member of the United Nations. I am referring to the ill-reputed group called UNITA which in the past supported the Portuguese colonialist forces in the fight against the people's movement for national liberation and which has been today transformed into an instrument of destabilization of the People's Republic of Angola in the hands of racist South Africa.

This is a serious situation which has been further worsened by the intervention in Angola's internal affairs, (?which has assumed) a greater and more dangerous dimension following the invitation, with the complicity of the Reagan administration, of Jonas Savimbi, the head of this group, to visit the United States. This action by the U.S. Government has deeply angered the Angolan people because it not only reveals a great interference in the internal affairs of a sovereign state, a member of the United Nations, but also shows the open hostility and a direct involvement of the United States on the side of Pretoria regime [words indistinct] destabilization acts of aggression that the racist regime will continue to perpetrate against the People's Republic of Angola, thus continuing the destruction of economic and social infrastructures, the kidnappings of foreigners, the indiscriminate and barbarous acts of massacre of peaceful citizens, and other acts of terrorism which are condemned by the international community, such as the one which recently took place in the municipalities of Camabatela, Gamba, Andrada and [word indistinct] where over 300 [word indistinct] lost their lives. We are today experiencing a flagrant violation of the norms of international law which govern relations between states and the principles enshrined in the UN Charter, of which the People's Republic of Angola, South Africa, and the United States are all members. We would like your excellency to see these laws are respected.

The Government of the People's Republic of Angola, desirous to continue in search of a peaceful and negotiable solution for the southern African problems and in an attempt to facilitate the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78, proposed during your excellency's visit to the People's Republic of Angola in August 1983 the conditions for the gradual withdrawal of the Cuban contingent in Angola, conditions which were thereafter [words indistinct] for concrete actions through a platform for a general peace agreement [words indistinct] Angola and Namibia [words indistinct] transmitted to your excellency in December 1984. Side by side and within the framework of demonstration, the political goodwill expressed in the platform, a delegation from the People's Republic of Angola held talks with a delegation from the United States on one side and with the South Africans themselves on the other. Thus, in January 1984, [words indistinct] signed by a U.S. official and Angolan official in which steps to be followed in the future are established, namely the disengagement of the South African forces from Angola, the halting of acts of aggression against Angola and of support for UNITA, the cessation of hostilities between South Africa and the Namibian guerrillas and the [word indistinct] of the date for the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 and the announcement of the gradual withdrawal of the Cuban forces from Angola.

In this context, [words indistinct] situation of southern Cunene by the South African Armed Forces, a first step for the creation of concrete conditions for the beginning of the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 [words indistinct] all the mechanisms for the supervision of the implementation of the UN resolution. Unfortunately and despite the (?effort and goodwill) demonstrated by the Angolan Government, none of the taken decisions was carried out in full, that is the cessation of acts of aggression by the South African Armed Forces against Angola, the cessation of support for the UNITA armed gangsters or the accord for cease-fire between SWAPO and South Africa.

The [word indistinct] and abstract indication of a date for the implementation of Resolution 435 cannot be considered as sufficient inasmuch as it does not indicate the sequence of the complementary steps and since it remains conditional on the previous (?demand) for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola [words indistinct]. As a matter of fact, the Angolan Government has presented a package of concrete proposals which were sent to your excellency in November 1984 and through these documents, we declared and announced the form in which the gradual withdrawal of internationalist Cuban troops would be accomplished, thus conforming to the [word indsitinct].

Also in a meeting with a delegation of the United States (?led) by Chester Crocker, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, in January 1986, the Angolan delegation reiterated the desire to continue talks on the basis of constructive proposals. However, in contrast to the desire and flexibility which has always been demonstrated by the Angola side [word indistinct], the Reagan administration not only repealed the Clark Amendment which prohibited the rendering of assistance to the Angolan puppets in the pay of South Africa, UNITA, but also engaged itself openly in rendering military, [word indistinct] and other kind of support to further worsen the situation and increase our people's suffering.

In the face of all these actions mentioned above, we conclude that the present U.S. Administration is not impartial and is not seriously engaged in the negotiations to contribute, as we are doing, in search of [word indistinct] and peaceful solution for the southern African problems. What is more, the U.S. Administration has included the Angolan problems in the so-called regional conflicts between East and West to delay the ongoing revolution in Namibia and prolong the apartheid system. By openly supporting UNITA and South Africa in the aggression against Angola, it has jeopardized its neutrality as mediator. As a conclusion and taking into account that the issue for the decolonization of Namibia [words indistinct] that the United Nations have charged on its secretary general, the Angolan Government [words indistinct] the mandate to your excellency within the framework of the United Nations the responsibility to conduct the negotiations for a speedy implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 for the independence of Namibia and for the security and peace in the region.

In this way, the Angolan Government requests your excellency to undertake all the necessary efforts. As for the security of Angola, the moral and material responsibility for the worsening of the military situation and the disastrous consequences of the war fall on those who support violence by promising military, financial, and other kind of support to the aggressive regime of apartheid and its complementary forces, which are the UNITA puppets. Our desire is to achieve a just and lasting peace which will satisfy both the interests and concerns of the Angolan people and the interests of the colonized people of Namibia through the implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78.

In this context, the Angolan Government reiterates its readiness to continue to undertake diplomatic efforts with a view to honestly contributing to the indpendence of Namibia and the restoration of a lasting climate of peace in southern Africa without endangering the hard-won sovereignty and independence of the Angolan people.

However, the Angolan Government will not abdicate (?from its right) [words indistinct] of the nations, nor will it [word indistinct] its responsibility to defend its people and its achievements. Accordingly, if the acts of aggression against its territory worsen, it will not hesitate to solicit assistance from the international community, particularly from its allies.

The Angola Government would like to inform your excellency that part of the Angolan Province of Cuando Cubango is still occupied and over 10 battalions are concentrated near Cunene Province in violation of the Lusaka accords.

In this way and in the face of these indications of [word indistinct] in the worsening of the situation, the Angolan Government is convinced that your excellency will spare no effort to try to examine as we are doing and with us, solutions that may safeguard peace in this year, which the United Nations dedicated as an international year of peace. We reiterate to your excellency the greatest and most cooperation possible in the (?negotiation) process that will lead Namibia to independence within the framework of the UN Security Council Resolution 435/78 [words indistinct] and respect for the integrity and sovereignty of the People's Republic of Angola.

Accept, your excellency, my highest regards.

[Signed] Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the chairman of the MPLA-Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola.

LESOTHO

Chairman Lekhanya, Information Minister Interviewed

MB191018 Johannesburg Television Service in English
1800 GMT 18 Mar 86

[Video interview with Major General J.M. Lekhanya, chairman of the Lesotho Military Council, and Vincent Malebo, minister of information, by Cliff Saunders on the "Network" program; presented by John Bishop — live]

[Excerpts] [Bishop] Two months after ousting the Jonathan regime, Lesotho's new leaders are fully entrenched in power. Cliff Saunders has just spent a week in Maseru assessing the situation.

[Begin video] [Saunders] Lesotho, a country with a new leader, a nation seeking a new lease on life. We have had the opportunity of speaking to the leader under discussion, Major General Metsing Lekhanya, chairman of the Military Council, chairman of the Council of Ministers, and a man who has been in power in Lesotho for the past few months. General, how do you judge the mood of the people here in Lesotho? You know, previously, businessmen and tourists to Lesotho claimed that there seemed to have been some unfriendliness, some hostility, in the country. Well, things seem to have changed. What are the reasons for this?

[Lekhanya] The people of Lesotho themselves have never really been hostile to foreign businessmen and even to tourists, and I think the official attitude might have been something else. But I think you and I should concentrate on the future. As you said, in the street, I feel people are quite happy.

[Saunders] Your government has indicated that there was a severe loss of discipline in the country. The youth brigade was running wild, and so on. How did this come about, and what are you doing to restore discipline?

[Lekhanya] There were quite a number of youth brigands issued with weapons, and that contributed to a lot of vandalism. But my government is going to address itself to it. We are continuing to disarm them. We have disarmed them and have recovered quite a number of arms and ammunition, and any act of murder and robbery will be taken care of by the law and by the authorities.

[Saunders] Do you intend restoring strict discipline to the country?

[Lekhanya] Yes, indeed. Sort of a military discipline. I would like to enforce the strictest discipline to our youths, to make them the better people for the future.

[Saunders] General, turning to the ANC issue, the previous Jonathan government gave South Africa firm reassurances that the ANC was not operating out of Lesotho. You have given South Africa similar reassurances. What makes yours more credible than those of the Jonathan government?

[Lekhanya] Well, let us face it, I am convinced that the previous government lied on many issues, indeed on many things, including the presence and the numbers of the cadres of the ANC. But my colleagues and I do not intend to continue our relations with South Africa in that fashion, and it is up to South Africa to believe us because we are very sincere.

[Saunders] Do you feel that you have sufficient control over the country, sufficient knowledge of what is happening in the country, so that there can be no future attacks by the ANC out of Lesotho into South Africa?

[Lekhanya] We are going to strengthen our security in having to control everything. We have to know everything. We must be in control, to make sure that there is no recurrence of things that happened during the previous administration.

[Saunders] Gen Lekhanya, sanctions. What is your government's attitude towards the sanctions campaign against South Africa?

[Lekhanya] Sanctions would affect most of us and even, for that matter, countries like Lesotho would suffer most, because once we have sanctions we are directly affected immediately. Then I hope moves of doing away with apartheid to preempt sanctions, then there will be no need for anybody advocating sanctions [sentence as heard].

[Saunders] The improvement in relations between South Africa and Lesotho is obviously regarded as beneficial by both countries. On the other hand, it could have negative implications for Lesotho. Mr Vincent Malebo, how do you feel about charges that South Africa has in effect bullied Lesotho into subservience and into submission?

[Malebo] It is important to realize that in various international fora, Lesotho's vote is equal to any other country's vote. If people think that Lesotho has been bullied and therefore it will not exercise its right to do what it wishes to do, then they are terribly mistaken. We would like to feel that now that there is a change and now that the relations between Lesotho and her only neighbor have been returned to normal, then Lesotho will be allowed to exercise her rights as a sovereign independent state. Lesotho will be allowed to choose its own friends, even if it will not choose the neighbor. There can be no question of this country being subservient to any other country.

[Saunders] In the light of what you have said, how do you see your main task as minister of information?

[Malebo] I would not like to use the ministry of information as a post office where you pass through messages to foreign countries, especially about things which you think you do not like. Secondly, the thing that I would not like to do is to use this ministry to single out indviduals for lashing, to insult people on the radio, to insult people in the papers. This, too, I do not want to do. This nation for nearly 20 years has been without peace. It has had people who did not know quite what they were doing, simply because they were being forced into a situation where they have got to be warring all the time, instead of working. We would like to help through this ministry, to send the message of peace, the message of reconciliation. We would like to send messages which will help this country to develop, we would like to send messages which are going to assist the country in getting on with thebusiness of feeding the people of educating the people, of ensuring that people are healthy. [end video]

MOZAMBIQUE

Machel Condemns Recruitment of Youths in Streets

MB191801 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] In Maputo this afternoon, President Samora Machel stressed that the army must forge cadres for the economic sectors. Speaking during the debate on the report of the National Coordinating Council of the Mozambique Youth Organizaion, which was presented to the second conference of the organization, the Mozambican head of state said that priority in military conscription should be given to youths with higher education so as to ensure a transition from military art to military science. The best must join the army, the army does not need mediocre people, he stressed.

The supreme leader of the Mozambican revolution said that Law No 4 of 1978 on the duration of compulsory military service may be reviewed, and stressed that the 2-year military service was established for a time of peace and is not appropriate to the present war sitaution. President Samora Machel condemned the arbitrary recruitment of the youths in the streets for military service. He pointed out that such raids pave the way for enemy maneuvers in our midst.

Renamo Claims Cuamba Captured, 311 Troops Killed

LD211844 Lisbon Domestic Service in Portuguese 1800 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] According to a communique issued in Lisbon, Renamo, the Mozambican rebel movement, claims to have taken and occupied the city and barracks of Cuamba. According to Renamo 259 government troops, 41 Tanzanian troops, 9 North Korean, and 2 Cuban military advisers were killed in action. Cuamba, formerly Nova Freixo, in the northern Province of Niassa, is the rail and road junction for the Provinces of Nampula, Zambezia, and Niassa with Malawi.

NAMIBIA

Schools To Be Opened to All Races 'in Principle'

MB201714 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1639 GMT 20 Mar 86

[Text] Windhoek, March 20, SAPA — The SWA/Namibia transitional cabinet has decided in principle that schools and educational institutions in the territory should be opened to all races, the minister of national education, Mr Andrew Matjila, said in Windhoek today.

He told a news conference that he foresaw January next year as a date for implementing the new policy.

The only outstanding issue was the control and management structure of the new education dispensation which was linked to proposals for the demarcation of administrative regions or provinces in SWA/Namibia.

"The control and management of education will be in accordance with a system of government which will be based on a constitutional arrangement which is presently under discussion by a select committee of the National Assembly as a matter of utmost urgency," Mr Maujila said.

He expected the select committee would complete its work in about four weeks and submit a report to the SWA/Namibian transitional government. The final proposals would be referred to the SWA/Namibian Constitutional Council to be considered for incorporation in the constitution.

At present, schools and teacher training colleges are functions of the second-tier ethnic authorities, established in terms of Proclamation AG 8, except those authorities who have transferred their education function to the central government.

The administration for whites in SWA/Namibia has retained control of its education function and admission to its schools is restricted to whites.

Mr Matjila said the new dispensation would "automatically" remove the provisions of Proclamation AG 8, which has been a subject of political controversy in SWA/Namibia.

SOUTH AFRICA

Mkhuseli Jack Unbanned by Court Order

MB221134 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Mkhuseli Jack has been unbanned. The 5-year banning on the Port Elizabeth Youth Congress and boycott organizer has been lifted after action in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court. Mike Loewe reports:

[Loewe] The banning order was lifted on Mr Jack this morning by Justice van Rensburg in his chambers. This followed an urgent application brought by the Port Elizabeth Legal Resources Center.

[Legal resources center spokesman] The Legal Resources Center brought an application on behalf of Mr Mkhuseli Jack to decree the restrictions order placed on him invalid and of no force or effect. We also planned to effect the application [words indistinct] by the court.

P.W. Botha Says West Should 'Rethink' Sanctions

MB241040 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1034 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 24, SAPA — If the real object of sanctions was to encourage revolutionary change, Western leaders would have to seriously rethink their role in this "unwarranted campaign" against South Africa, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today.

Speaking at the third world congress of Brahman breeders here, he said there were a number of "interesting ironies" to recent calls for sanctions. They were no longer coming only from the ranks of the communist and Eastern-bloc, or Third World, countries. If it were only these countries who called for sanctions, it could have been explained away as ideologically founded. It could also have been labelled as window-dressing by countries that did not really intend, or who were not in a position, to impose punitive economic measures against South Africa.

"Today both the calls for economic sanctions, and the actual imposition of such sanctions, comes mainly from the ranks of Western countries. This is the first irony."

The second irony lay in the real object and questioning of the timing of these calls for economic sanctions.

"The apparent motivation for foreign economic pressure against South Africa is presented as an attempt to coerce this country into applying reformist policies. It is said to be done to aid the underprivileged and the powerless in South Africa. But this uncalled-for intervention in our domestic affairs comes at the very time when we are in the most dramatic phase of fundamental reform in this country's history.

"There must therefore be something sinister in both the motivation and the timing of calls for economic sanctions against us, particularly from Western countries."

The third irony lay in the possible effects of economic sanctions. Those actions would be mainly to the detriment of the underprivileged and the poor, and therefore mainly the blacks of this country.

Ultimately, economic sanctions would have nearly the opposite effect from that which was envisaged, if the motivation was to be believed. Sanctions would weaken the poor and hamper the process of reform. This would encourage violence and revolutionary change.

"If this is the real object of the attempts to impose economic sanctions against South Africa, Western leaders will have to seriously rethink their role in this unwarranted campaign against us," said Mr Botha.

He also said that South Africa was perceived to be one of the world's major trouble spots. Those who were interested in facts knew that this perception was false. South Africa, like some other countries in history, was caught up in a concerted effort to kill the truth and manipulate reality.

"We share this situation with all the countries of the free world. But, because of our unique circumstances, we have to carry a major burden in this regard. We shall do so, despite the unparalleled campaign against the sovereignty of our country, and against the people of this land, and despite the hypocrisy with which we must cope."

South Africa was a civilised country, believing in civilised norms and values, and upheld human dignity, life and liberty.

"We believe in a democratic system of government. We believe in the sovereignty of the law as the basis for the protection of the fundamental rights of individuals and groups. The extent to which these values are upheld in practice in this country is relatively unique on this continent.

"We dare not, and we shall not, turn our backs on our centuries-old heritage in this regard, to surrender to the forces of leftist revolutionary chaos. We are not fooled by the pretence of those who seek our downfall."

As a highly developed and industrialised nation, South Africa had a responsibility to all its communities.

"We must continue with reform to broaden the base of our democracy. We must continue with the development of our first world economy and at the same time uplift those who still form part of our third world economy."

South Africa wished to take up its responsibilities at home and in the rest of Africa. But for too long it had been caught in the crossfire of the international struggle between the power blocs of the world.

"The result was that this country had in many areas been deliberately isolated from the rest of Africa. This is unfortunate and unnecessary. We have the ability to play a major role in Africa. Most African leaders themselves admit this," said Mr Botha.

Deputy Minister on Commitment To End Discrimination

MB192009 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 19 Mar 86

[Text] The deputy minister of constitutional development said the South African Government is committed to the removal of discrimination. Deputy Minister Piet Badenhorst has said in the colored parliament that it is not necessary to appoint a select committee to investigate the repeal of all discriminatory legislation, because the government agreed that discrimination should be done away with.

Mr Badenhorst said a large measure of success has already been achieved through changes applied. But MP Peter Mopp, who suggested the select committee, had criticized Mr Badenhorst and called for the government to introduce changes quickly. The motion has been passed unanimously by the colored house.

Wentzel: No Immediate Increase in Bread Price

MB241044 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1042 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Excerpts] Cape Town, March 24, SAPA — There is to be no immediate increase in the price of bread, the minister of agricultural economics and water affairs, Mr Greyling Wentzel, said in a statement here today.

He said that despite the cut in the bread subsidy from R220 million in 1985/86 to R150 million in the coming financial year, it would be possible as a result of funds made available by the wheat board to "avoid an increase in the price of bread for the present".

"It remains the government's aim to keep the price of bread as low as possible especially during this time of unfavourable economic conditions which are imposing a heavy burden on the less privileged of the population in particular."

It had to be remembered, however, that the phasing out of the bread subsidy was in keeping with the government's initiative to grant more direct assistance to that section of the polulation suffering physical hunger.

"Under the present economic conditions in which we have to contend with unemployment and physical hunger, the government is giving careful attention to all possible measures which could help to keep the price of bread as low as possible," Mr Wentzel said.

Even at its unsubsidised cost, South African bread was still markedly cheaper than that of the countries from which the wheat was to be imported. The price of an 350g loaf in the USA was equivalent to R1.22, and in the United Kingdom and France 88 cents and R2.37 respectively. At present the consumer in the republic was paying only 70 and 50 cents respectively for white and brown bread.

Agreement Reached on Extending Debt Repayment

MB211925 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] South Africa and its creditor banks have reached agreement on a plan to extend repayments on South Africa's foreign debt. Banking sources say a refinancing package drawn up last month by former Swiss banker Fritz Leutwiler will proceed now that both sides have resolved certain sticking points. South Africa last September declared a unilateral moratorium on repayments of about $14 billion of foreign debt. Many of the creditor banks have agreed to accept South Africa's offer to pay nearly all $500 million involved in the freeze in mid-April. Under Mr Leutwiler's original proposals, the payments would have been spread over four quarters.

Survey Shows Port Elizabeth Stayaway Effective

MB220740 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0600 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] The results of a wide-ranging survey of yesterday's stayaway in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage has shown that most African workers and a large number of colored workers heeded the COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] call. The results were compiled by an industrial relations research group known as the Labor Monitoring Group. More from Mike Loewe:

[Loewe] Ninety four companies employing a total of 33,000 workers were surveyed. Researchers found that 99 percent of Africna workers employed in all sectors stayed away while 83 percent of colored workers in Uitenhage and 23 percent in Port Elizabeth did not go to work. Most of the colored workers who stayed away were employed in manufacture. I spoke to UPE [University of Port Elizabeth] researcher, Dr Val Weerden:

[Begin recording] [Loewe] Dr Weerden, what do you think the figures reflect?

[Weerden] A large percentage of our black workers stayed away in response to the call by COSATU. Over 99 percent in most of the cases. Where the colored workers were organized by COSATU, there was a large stayaway, but where they were not organized by COSATU, the stayaway was markedly less effective.

[Loewe] Last year almost no colored workers joined a similar stayaway. [end recording]

University of Witwatersrand Students Stone Police

MB211430 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1426 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, March 21, SAPA — Tension ran high on the campus of the University of the Witwatersrand today as students stoned a police patrol outside the campus and boycotted classes in commemoration of the Sharpeville and Langa police shootings.

About 2000 students attended a mass meeting, called by the Black Students Society, on the University's lawns instead of going to classes.

An alleged police informer was attacked by members of the volatile crowd, an eyewitness said. Student organisers and university security intervened and led the person to safety.

After the meeting a crowd of students marched through the streets of Braamfontein, where the university is situated, chanting slogans and singing freedom songs. Police monitored the events but maintained a low profile, the eyewitness said. No arrests were reported.

Several Arrested in Duncan Village After 'Swoop'

MB211438 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Police have arrested a number of people in East London's Duncan Village, and Franz Kruger reports the arrests are in connection with the murder this week of the Transkei's representative in the city.

[Kruger] A police liaison officer confirmed the early morning arrests today but would not say how many people are being held. However, residents say they had seen large numbers of people being loaded into police buses pursuant to a police and army swoop. Among those held are believed to executive members of the Duncan Village Residents Association.

The police liaison officer confirmed the police action was part of investigations into the murder a few days ago of J.J. Matoti, a Duncan Village representative of Transkei's former president, Kaiser Matanzima. Meanwhile, the police unrest report says 13 houses in Futo Village, outside East London, were burned down last night. The report said a man and a girl died in the fires.

Durban Demonstrators Released From Custody

MB211425 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Here is a report from Carmel Rickard in Durban:

[Rickard] Police say they have arrested a total of 118 people in today's lunch time demonstration; 53 of these were under 18 and were released after being warned they will be charged. The remaining 63 were charged with attending an illegal gathering. They have been released and given the option of paying a 20 rand admission of guilt fine or go into court.

One of those loaded into a van by police was *DAILY NEWS* reporter Paul Hartz. He was taking photos of the incident when a policeman tried to stop him and pushed him into the van. Mr Hartz says the policeman sprayed teargas into his face as he was put into the van where several dozen other people were already crouched.

Police say they do not deny using teargas in the van, but claim it was because those inside were singing freedom songs.

Three Reportedly Killed During Ratanda Stayaway

MB241205 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1203 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Mar 24, SAPA — Three people are reported to have been killed in Ratanda, near Heidelberg, since a work stayaway was called at the weekend in protest at the shooting of a middle-aged woman and the detention of two leaders.

And, in the nearby Vaal Triangle townships, there was a confused response to the call for a two-day stayaway, with workers initially supporting the call but then boarding buses much later than usual.

In Ratanda, alleged vigilantes hunting for United Democratic Front supporters last night killed Mr Mandla Magavi in a sheeben, a spokesman for the Ratanda Civic Association (RCA) claimed.

This morning two people who were not observing the stayaway and were walking to their transport were hit by stray bullets and were believed to be dead, the spokesman said. He was unable to identify the victims.

The RCA spokesman said that, after these deaths, it seemed as though no one from the township would go to work today.

Trouble erupted in Ratanda with the distribution of pamphlets criticising the local caretaker community councillors for carrying guns, being insured for R45,000 each by the government, and acting as a new batch of "puppets" after the resignation of the original council.

According to a source, a youth who was distributing pamphlets was confronted by a policeman who confiscated the leaflets. Shortly afterwards police allegedly arrested Mr Zachuis Machitje, president of the RCA, and Mr Mzwakhe Ndebele, an executive member of the Ratanda Students Congress.

The police were then stoned and allegedly responded by opening fire. A woman who, according to the source had nothing to do with the incident, was shot in the thigh.

The call then went out for a work stayaway for as long as Mr Machitje and others remained in custody. If their detention should extend beyond the school holidays, pupils will continue the boycott of calsses which began in the first term.

In the Vaal Triangle there was confusion this morning after last week's stayaway call.

Pamphlets calling on workers not to report for work were distributed in Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Evaton, Bophelong, Boipatong and Zamdela yesterday.

Earlier, a meeting attended by more than 2000 resolved on the stayaway to protest about several issues, including the jailing of people arrested for rent arrears. Residents, initially reluctant to board buses, did so enthusiastically at about 7.30 am and, by 8 am, public transport was flowing freely to town.

Residents said they had heard of the stayaway call but, as a Sharpeville worker put it: "When I checked this morning I saw taxis and buses operating and people going to work, so I went back home and got ready for work."

There was a limited police presence in the area this morning. A Vaal Transport Corporation spokesman said that services were operating normally although it was too early to judge whether the number of passengers was normal.

A police spokesman in Pretoria said he knew nothing of the Vaal staway and the three deaths in Ratanda. "The matter will be looked into," he added.

Police Fire Teargas at Port Elizabeth Vigil

MB231126 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] A number of people have been injured at a church in Port Elizabeth, KwaZakhele Township, allegedly after police fired teargas through the windows while a vigil was in progress. In reaction to the event, the Progressive Federal Party is to ask a question in Parliament. Mike Loewe has more on the story:

[Loewe] According to the Black Sash, hundreds of resients were packed into the Congregational Church attending a vigil for an unrest victim when the teargas canisters came crashing through the windows. In the ensuing chaos people scrambled over chairs to get to the single exit point in the church while others dived through window panes, gashing themselves badly.

[Begin July Chalmers, head of the East Cape Black Sash recording] Inside the church there was glass all over the floor. There was blood on the floor, there was blood on the windows, there were teargas canisters scattered all over the floor. [words indistinct] the people [words indistinct] were injured. The ones who were more badly hurt have gone to hospital and we are hoping to get statements from them about this event. [end recording]

[Loewe] Meanwhile, an East Cape police spokesman has responded saying it is not police policy to fire teargas into churches.

Explosions Damage University, Power Stations

MB220530 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Damage estimated at around 1 million rands was caused by a petrol bomb or bombs on the campus of the University of Natal last night. The police say the ensuing fire destroyed 23 offices, including 10 offices in the Department of Computer Science.

Our Durban news staff reports that six fire engines were sent to the scene about 10.45 pm last night, and the fire was extinguished after half an hour.

In another incident in Durban last night four limpet mines exploded at the Chamberlain substation in the Jacobs suburb, and there was a brief power failure. The extent of the damage is not yet known. On 9 January a limpet mine exploded at the same substation killing a police officer, Colonel Robert Wellman. Col Wellman was investigating an earlier explosion from the limpet mine which exploded. Sergeant Rudi van der Merwe, who was injured in the explosion, is still being treated in the Wentworth Hospital in Durban.

No one was injured in the two incidents last night which are being investigated by the police.

Krugersdorp Convent Petrol Bombed; No Injuries

MB240709 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0704 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Jan 24, SAPA — A convent in Krugersdorp Township of Kagiso was petrol bombed early today.

One of three missiles thrown crashed through the window of a bedroom where one of the three resident sisters was sleeping, setting the curtains alight, said Sister Bernard of the Convent of Our Lady. The blaze was put out without anyone being hurt.

Sister Bernard is president of the Federation of Transvaal Women. She said the attack had occurred at about 1am and none of the sisters had seen those responsible.

The bombing came two days after the government's announcement that Krugersdorp's township, Munsieville, would not be removed despite demands from thousands of whites.

Two KwaZulu Police Killed in Mahlabathini

MB211845 Johannesburg Television Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Two KwaZulu policemen and a passenger were shot dead during an ambush on a bus at the Mahlabathini District last night. The police answered the fire of an unknown group of armed assailants, but were overpowered and shot dead. Their bodies were mutilated.

Police Disperse March by UWC Students

MB212012 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2009 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Cape Town, March 21, SAPA — An emotional candle-lighting ceremony in rememberance of those who died in unrest and political violence ended an exuberant Sharpeville commemoration attended by more than 500 students at the University of the Western Cape [UWC] today.

Earlier in the day hundreds of students gathered at the campus and held an hour-long placard demonstration calling for the release of jailed ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

Police boke up a morning march of about 500 pupils from Cape Flats High Schools as they moved to join fellow pupils and students at the Sharpeville commemoration.

Witnesses said the pupils had been carrying "release Mandela" placards and police confirmed SAP sjambokked pupils on their way to the university. The witnesses said the pupils had scattered and many had run on to the UWC campus.

A police liaison officer for the Western Province, Lt Attie Laubscher, said the pupils had refused to obey an order to disperse and that police had not entered the grounds.

Pupils in the Bonteheuwel area held mass meetings and left school at about 11am. Many schools held normal classes, but pupils at other schools in the Cape Peninsula either held awareness programmes or did not report for classes.

The UWC commemoration was organised by the Azanian Students Organisation and attended by representatives of at least 10 anti-apartheid organisations, including the UDF [United Democratic Front].

Speakers said the 26th anniversary of Sharpeville was not a day of mourning "but a day to remember that we have to carry on the struggle."

With the ANC flag draped over the speakers table, the UWC chaplain, the Rev Colin Jones, said he rejected an allegation by the Labour Party leader, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, that UWC was a "nest of Marxists."

He asked members of organisations to light their candles from a central candle "which commemorates those who gave their lives at Sharpeville, before and after, as a sign of ongoing hope, and the courage that we draw from this fire, our fire."

Police Shoot Petrol Bomb in Port Elizabeth

MB212024 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2022 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Port Elizabeth, March 21, SAPA — Police said they shot and hit a petrol bomb which a man was poised to throw at a police vehicle in Moterwell, Port Elizabeth, early today.

A 25-year-old man was found in a toilet nearby and was arrested in connection with the incident, Lt-Col Gerrie van Rooyen, liaison officer for the SAP in the eastern Cape, said. He said 34 petrol bombs were hurled at police vehicles in 19 incidents last night.

Tear smoke — and in some cases birdshot — were used 21 times by security forces in the black townships of Port Elizabeth today to disperse crowds up to 1000, he said.

"In most cases the crowds gathered while stopping vehicles demanded to be driven to Uitenhage," he said.

He confirmed that tearsmoke had been used at Langa, Uitenhage this morning while people were mounting buses on their way to attend the memorial service in the Jabavu stadium, KwaNobuhle.

Several road blocks had also been set up by the security forces in townships near Port Elizabeth and the surrounding areas today to search vehicles for petrol bombs and weapons.

"This action was necessary because as recently as Wednesday night somebody fired on a police vehicle with a firearm from a crowd," said Col van Rooyen.

Professor's Home Firebombed, Research Destroyed

MB220525 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2011 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Durban, March 22, SAPA — The home and university offices of one of South Africa's most prominent political scientists, Professor Lawrence Schlemmer, have been firebombed, Johannesburg Sunday newspapers reported today.

The attacks destroyed years of research of the professors and other academics and caused at least R1-million damage to the Durban campus of Natal University.

Prof Schlemmer said that 30 years work had gone up in flames. "My entire professional collection has been destroyed. All the work done by my department and I might as well not have existed," he said.

On Thursday night a fire swept through the professor's study at his Durban home.

Last night four separate fires broke out in two wings of the university. Police are investigating the possibility of arson and the possibility that some of the university's fire-fighting equipment had been sabotaged.

Prof Schlemmer said that the work he was doing on a combined KwaZulu-Natal legislature might have been the reason for the attacks as the words "no indaba" were painted on the scorched corridor wall outsider the professor's office at the university. The professor was closely associated with the Buthelezi commission which was studying constitutional options for Natal.

Five fire engines were sent to the blaze on campus. One fire broke out at the back of the memorial tower building, which was recently declared a national monument. The fire was first seen in two classrooms of the Shepstone building. Security were forced to seal off the university and police moved into the area to begin investigations which are still continuing.

Police Issue Latest Unrest Situation Reports

Late 21 Mar

MB211757 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1753 GMT 21 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 21, SAPA — Following is the police situation report on unrest today to 7pm:

"The bodies of seven black men were found by police this morning at New Crossroads, outside Cape Town. The bodies were apparently all axed to death and police are investigating the murder.

"A private home and two private vehicles were set alight in the same area.

"A crowd of black people who gathered outside the University of the Western Cape in Cape Town today were dispersed by police with sjamboks.

"Stones were thrown at police vehicles at Seeisonville, near Kroonstad today. One black man was wounded and arrested by police in the incident. A bread delivery vehicle in Seeisoville was also robbed.

"At Soweto, a delivery vehicle was set alight by arsonists and a bread delivery vehicle was robbed.

"At New Brighton township, near Port Elizabeth, two black men were arrested after a petrol-bomb attack on police vehicles.

"Near Carolina, in the eastern Transvaal, five black men and three black women were arrested by police during an ilelgal gatheirng.

"In the south western districts, near Gudtshoorn, two coloured men and one coloured woman were arrested after an illegal gathering.

"At Durban, 118 were arrested by police after an illegal meeting. Of those arrested, 55 were under the age of 18. These 55 people were warned and immediatly released. A total of 63 people — all over the age of 18 — are still being held."

End report.

Early 22 Mar

MB220719 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0707 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 22, SAPA — The 7am unrest report as supplied by the SA Police Directorate of Public Relations in Pretoria:

Port Natala, Durban, damage estimated about R1 million was done at Durban University, when according to information received by the police, it was petrol bombed. 23 offices in two different wings had been damaged.

"Four explosions took place at a substation in Chamberlain Street, Bluff, Durban. The explosion is being investigated by the police. The Chamberlain Street substation is where Colonel Robert Welman was injured and subsequently died last year.

"In Kwamashu, two private vehicles had been set alight by arsonists.

"Eastern Province. At Uitenhage, a white woman was grabbed by a few blacks. They cut her hair and threatened her with rape. She however managed to escape her attackers.

"In KwaZakhele a liquor store was petrol bombed and SAP vehicles were also petrol bombed. One black male was wounded and arrested by the police.

"At Adelaide, a black woman was burnt to death with a tyre around the neck and the burnt out body of a black male was also found by the police.

"In Dennilton, a black male was arrested after stonethrowing incidents at a delivery vehicle.

"In Kimberley, at Galeshiwe, two black males were injured when a mob set fire to a private home and threw stones at private vehicles. Eight black males were arrested in Atteridgeville when they were caught holding a people's court.

"Vosloosrus. A private vehicle has been set alight and buses were attacked by stonethrowers.

"In Blue Water a black woman was burnt to death when a private home was set alight.

"In Pretoria, two black males were arrested on charges of intimidation."

Ends report.

Late 22 Mar

MB230539 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1708 GMT 22 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 22, SAPA — Here follows the unrest report up to 7pm issued by the South African Police's Public Relations Division in Pretoria.

"In Adelaide, in the Eastern Province, the SAP has arrested eight black males, between 16 and 26 years of age, plus one black female, 40, for murder. This follows the murder of a black female who was burnt to death and found with a tyre around her.

"At Bogweni, near Cookhouse, two shops were set alight and considerable damage was done to them.

"A black ESCOM [Electricity Supply Commission] worker was wounded near Fort Beaufort when shots were fired from a nearby black township.

"A black male, over 18, was arrested at Walmer after a stone throwing attack on the SAP.

"In the Western Province two coloured males were arrested in Bishop Lavis by the SAP after a stone throwing incident at a SAP member's private home.

"In Boguletu, near Oudtshoorn, a black male, over 18 was arrested following a stone throwing incident.

"At Bluewaters near East London, 57 black males were arrested after an illegal meeting.

"Near KaNyamazane, in the eastern Transvaal, a black male was shot to death, and another was arrested in a petrol bomb attack on an SAP vehicle."

Report ends.

Early 23 Mar

MB230656 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0649 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 23, SAPA — Following is the SA Police 8am unrest situation report:

"In Soweto, WWR [Witwatersrand], various incidents happened yesterday and last night where delivery vehicles were looted.

"In KwaZakhele, estimated damage of R200,000 was done when a liquor store was set alight by arsonists.

"In Walmer petrol bombs were thrown at a liquor store, a member of the Development Board's house and a private home. The SAP wounded and arrested a black male in one of these incidents.

"In Zwide, a liquor store was set alight.

"At Mohlakeng near Wesselsbron a bus was set alight. Damage R100,000. Stones had been thrown at a private home.

"In Atteridgeville near Pretoria, a member of the SAP's private home was petrol bombed."

Ends report.

Late 23 Mar

MB240630 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1727 GMT 23 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, Mar 23, SAPA — The following is the unrest report as issued by the Directorate of Police Public Relations in Pretoria today:

"Freight valued at R10,000 was robbed from a delivery vehicle in Soweto this afternoon and a private home was petrol bombed, with damage estimated at R10,000.

"In the Eastern Province in KwaZakhele near Port Elizabeth the Tsume Primary School was petrol bombed. Minimum damage was caused.

"On the East Rand a light explosion took place in Jubilee Street, Alberton. Slight damage was done to a car. The police are investigating."

Early 24 Mar

MB240632 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0611 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Pretoria, March 24, SAPA — Following is the SA Police 8am unrest situation report:

"The following incidents of unrest were reported overnight:
"At the black residential area Blouwater in the border area the SAP used tear smoke and rifles to disperse a mob which fathered illegally. No injuries were reported.

"At Dennilton in KwaNdebele two policemen were on their way to the police station. They were stopped by a mob and one of the policemen was dragged away. The other policemen managed to escape. The kidnapped policeman's body was later found in Dennilton.

"At Galeshewe near Kimberley, three residents were injured when a private dwelling was put on fire. In another incident a private dwelling was damaged by a petrol-bomb.

"At Atteridgeville near Pretoria a private dwelling was slightly damaged by a petrol-bomb.

"At Qukatole near Aliwal North the SAP used a round of birdshot to disperse a mob that gathered illegally. No injuries were reported."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

[Editorial Report]

Black Sash President Interviewed

Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 19 March reports on page 2 that Mary Burton, the new president of the Black Sash, has said the organization will " 'keep on working to try to bring about changes that really are steps towards justice rather than towards less repressive control.' " Burton said the means of protest were shifting from actions within the law to civil disobedience, but the group did remain committed to nonviolence. She added that " 'a social-welfareist attitude is not sufficient in a country where we have so much poverty and repression but I am not convinced that socialism would wipe out the problems that exist.' "

Eglin on Black Housing Shortage

Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Colin Eglin told a Johannesburg meeting that, according to government estimates, there is a shortage of 400,000 black housing units, which meant that over 2 million blacks in the country had no housing, the paper reports on page 4. Eglin called for "a 'major concerted effort' by South Africans to remedy the black housing crisis and avert a national catastrophe." He noted that national and local authorities as well as the private sector provided only 16,613 housing units in urban townships during 1985 and that for the private sector to develop and sell property to a black required the approval of 28 government departments.

Column on Namibian Independence

In the "Political Midweek" column on the same page, Michael Acott says that "SWA/Namibia is unlikely to become independent this year, even if South Africa's August deadline for an agreement on a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola is met." Even according to the most optimistic timetable 1 August would not be the date of independence, but merely the beginning of a lengthy process since the 1978 settlement plan provides for a 7-month runup to independence. However, it is extremely unlikely the 1 August deadline will be accepted. Although President Botha has "gained some international credit for setting a date on which he is prepared to implement the settlement plan," it remains to be seen whether he will ever be called up to do so. "An early election here would be one indication that he wants to go to the polls before risking the installation of a SWAPO government in Windhoek and the resultant right-wing agitation about Nationalists having capitulated to communists and terrorists." The government will "settle when it believes the advantages in doing so outweigh the disadvantages of the effects on conservative whites and revolutionary black opinion at home."

CITIZEN on Eglin

Commenting on PFP leader Colin Englin's remark that it would be the height of folly for the party to leave Parliament, Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 20 March says in an editorial on page 6 that while Eglin showed "none of the academic brilliance of which Dr Slabbert was capable," PFP members should be glad of this. Eglin has "a solid workmanlike approach that is needed at this particular point in the party's history." Eglin has a difficult job for although the party has reaffirmed its unity, "there is a bitterness within the party that suggests that Slabbert affair still casts its shadow." "Whether the party can re-establish or extend its base in white politics will depend on what image it projects among the white electorate — and that image cannot be one, as at present, of being soft on terrorism, sympathetic to radicals, and prepared to play footsy-footsy with the ANC."

NRP Leader Calls for Blacks in Parliament

"Mr Bill Sutton, leader of the New Republic Party [NRP], last night again hinted that the NRP may contest the Pinelands seat in the forthcoming by-election," Brian Stuart reports on page 11. Sutton told a meeting in Claremont that "what was needed was a political movement among moderate blacks that would give them reason to resist violence. This could come from the NRP's proposed 'coalition party.' " " 'The bottom line for such an organization must be the inclusion of blacks in the present Parliament.' "

East Rand Policemen Acquitted

The paper reports on the same page that two East Rand policemen, who had been accused of culpable homicide after a black man they were questioning died from "consistent pressure being applied to his neck," have been acquitted. The magistrate said that the policemen's version that the suspect fell during an epileptic fit may have been true and he acquitted them accordingly.

Police Unit To Combat Car Theft

"Police in Soweto have formed special units like those in Alexandra to combat a recent spate of armed car robberies," Andrew Thomas reports on page 18. "Soweto police say about 60 cars have been seized by gangs of youths armed with a variety of weapons in the last 10 days. In Alexandra, about 51 cars have been stolen since Monday last week."

Tutu Urged To Restore Peace

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 20 March reports on page 1 that "Soweto residents have called on Bishop Desmond Tutu to restore peace to the township as escalating violence between gangsters and youths threaten to erupt into a full-scale war." In an effort to prevent further violence, "an emergency meeting of residents and black organisations was called in Orlando East last night."

Haggie Rand Strike Continues

"Several hundred Haggie Rand workers are still sitting in at Germiston and Jupiter plants despite the dismissal of 1,900 colleagues on Monday," Claire Pickard-Cambridge reports on page 2. However, the company is to hold talks with the Metal and Allied Workers Union and the possibility of rehiring the dismissed workers will be discussed."

BUSINESS DAY on Budget

In its editorial on page 6, the paper disputes the criticism that the budget had nothing for the poor. True, it did not redistribute income to them "but that is something different entirely and of dubious benefit. What the poor (or, more correctly, the unemployed) need are more job opportunities, not an expansion of the development handouts that the budget did contain." Had more relief been given directly to the poor, no growth would have been stimulated. The paper says the major problem is that the tax cuts were not sufficiently extensive. It is from the middle-income group that entrepreneurial activity comes, "activity that will create jobs faster than any other phenomenon. Their increased economic activity will be to the benefit of the economy as a whole and all who sail in her."

White Frustration

Political reporter Peter Wallington reports on page 7 that Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leaders are trying to instill confidence in the party and give it new direction after the resignation of former leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert. One meeting in Rosebank, Johannesburg, "was a study in white fear and frustration — fear about the future, frustration over not being able to do anything about it." Questioners asked what plan of action the party had to resolve the situation. Party leaders were unable to provide a satisfactory answer. Party official Peter Gastrow said that the party had to give up comfortable paternalism and become more relevant by becoming " 'involved with real political action in South Africa.' " However, Wallington notes that "the PFP has to convince whites who want change that it is the best vehicle for this."

Inkatha-COSATU War

Clare Pickard-Cambridge reports on the same page that "a Natal shop-floor war might result from the proposed launch of the Inkatha-backed union opposed to the Congress of SA Trade Unions (COSATU)." "Academics believe the crucial area of confrontation between Inkatha and COSATU will be in Durban." According to Natal University industrial sociologist Rob Lambert, " 'The possibility exists that Inkatha may create divisions in some factories, but I believe Inkatha will probably only make gains in areas where COSATU has not entrenched itself.' " Although Chief Buthelezi had criticized COSATU for its political positions, he failed "to understand that shop stewards had been exposed to township crises and had accepted that they had to express demands from workers and community members." While some employees welcomed the new union, others "have established relationships with COSATU unions and fear the resistance and conflict which could be generated by possible Inkatha inroads."

Criticism of Hunger Funds' Return

The Johannesburg *STAR* in English for 20 March reports on page 1 that Operation Hunger, academics, and the PFP have attacked the government for not using R6 million of the R10 million allocated to its emergency feeding scheme. PFP spokesman on health Dr Marius Barnard plans to investigate and question whether the scheme had been properly implemented. Dr Colin Cameron, who runs the scheme, said it was introduced to "alleviate the plight of the desperately hungry" but was not intended as a "full feeding program for people suffering from malnutrition." Several relief organizations, including Operation Hunger, were refused government aid because they were not registered as welfare organizations.

Chamber of Mines-Union Agreement

The Chamber of Mines has signed a recognition agreement with the African Miners' and Allied Workers' Union. A joint statement said the recognition concerned security employees, about 120 personnel, at JCI's Western Areas Gold Mining Company. The general secretary of the union said its total membership at the mine was in the region of 3,800.

Editorial on Hunger

"Taking food out of starving mouths is the kind of accusation no government would wish to have levelled at it. But what else can one call the failure to use R6 million of the R10 million allocated last year to feed the destitute?", a page 10 editorial asks. To find destitute families one needs go no further than the offices of Operation Hunger. A simple look round almost any homeland should convince anyone of the "chronic poverty" that has been aggravated by years of drought and recession. "Bureaucratic madness — for that is what it must be — cannot be allowed to stop destitute people from getting the help due to them," the editorial concludes.

DPSC on Government Powers

An article on the editorial page by the Detainees' Parents Support Committee [DPSC] says that having seen the "devastating effects" of the state of emergency, "we were extremely relieved" when we heard it was to be lifted. "It is difficult to appreciate the sheer human suffering inflicted by the state of emergency." The detention of thousands failed to stem the conflict in the townships and, if anything, "served to intensify it." Even the minister of law and order is now beginning to admit that the "root causes of township unrest lie in legitimate grievances." But now, the DPSC says, "we are faced with the spectre of a permanent undeclared state of emergency." The government "has hinted, and legal experts have predicted, that the powers used in the emergency will now be enshrined in Government statutes, probably a Public Safety Act." The DPSC is determined to fight "tooth and nail" any "vast extension of already horrendous powers." If the government recognizes that the conflict in this country is based on "legitimate and widespread grievances," then it must meet the basic demands of South Africa's majority.

Rise of Vigilantes

"They have emerged in the recent times of political turmoil in small townships, in metropolitan shanty towns and in the remote homelands. They go by many names — the A-Team, the Phakathis, the Amabutho, the Fathers, the Mbokotho — they sow bloodshed and chaos even as they preach 'law and order.' " They are an "increasingly recognisable breed, known most simply as the 'vigilante' or 'Mabangalala.' " Thus reports an article on page 11, quoting Nicholas Haysom of the Wits University Center for Applied Legal Studies, who has just had a book *Maban galala: The Rise of Rightwing Vigilantes in South Africa* published. Haysom is quoted as saying that the vigilantes share a common target — "members or leaders of groups associated with resistance to apartheid or homeland rule," and they operate allegedly in some cases with police support. Their purpose is to "alter the balance of power in areas where the State has a 'crisis of control.' " In several cases there have been "demonstrable and acknowledged" links between the vigilantes and community councillors and in certain homelands the vigilantes derive their authority "directly from the formal political structures." And in some areas vigilantes have fed off the "tensions and divisions" with the community. The vigilantes do much more than disorganize or cow antiapartheid organizations into submissions, Haysom says. "They raise the level of brutality in black areas dramatically."

Reaction to Lecturer's Arrest

The Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English for 20 March reports on page 1 that several organizations have reacted angrily to the announcement that the Reverend Arnold Stofile has " 'resigned' " his post of lecturer at the University of Fort Hare while he is being detained under Ciskei's National Security Act. Stofile, who is also border region secretary of the United Democratic Front, is being held under Section 26 which provides indefinite detention without trial and no access to lawyers, private doctors, family or any other persons. The university's public relations officer, when questioned about his resignation, suggested Stofile himself should be asked about it. A page 4 editorial calls the detention a "very familiar story" but the really frightening part is that his resignation letter "came from behind locked doors." Fort Hare has a proud history which was destroyed when the "university did not question why a man should resign from behind locked doors. They did not ask why he was able to communicate with them when he was not allowed to communicate with his very own family."

Students To Meet ANC

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans of 20 March reports on page 6 that the students of Cape Town University voted unanimously at a mass meeting that representatives of the university be included in a National Union of South Africa Students delegation to hold talks with the ANC. A motion stating that no solution to South Africa's political problems would be found without the participation of the ANC was accepted. The motion also stated that no clear understanding of the country's future could be formulated without understanding what the ANC stands for, and that South Africans had the right to gain information about the ANC and to meet with the organization.

BEELD on Black Polarization

On page 8 the paper editorializes on the plans by Inkatha to form a trade union. The decision, it says, is not surprising, since the challenge to Inkatha by Congress of South African Trade Unions was issued in the political field. "The past year has been notable for the harsh criticism of Chief Buthelezi by radicals. He is accused of being a 'sell-out' who owes his position to the apartheid system. The formation of an Inkatha-inclined trade union is certainly going to speed up the polarization of black politics."

Government, Business Cooperation

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans of 19 March says on page 3 that Fred du Plessis, chairman of Sanlam, told the group's annual general meeting in Bellville that the country's problems are so serious and complicated that they could not be solved without a long-term national strategy. "He said the situation called for great understanding on the part of the government and close cooperation with the private sector to overcome the obstacles on the road to success, particularly in the light of the increasing danger of sanctions and boycotts."

Women Told To Accept Reality

A report in *THE TRANSVALER* on page 13 says Dr Rina Venter, member of Parliament, said at the annual wreath-laying ceremony of the South African Women's Federation in Pretoria that the women of South Africa should open their eyes to what is taking place in the country. "Women should realize the extent of the onslaught against the country and discuss the reality intelligently. One of these realities was that the Afrikaner has become a minority which has to fight for its survival. Another reality was that apartheid had become a symbol of the oppression of people." She said the task of the women was to uplift the blacks, and the culture of the Afrikaner woman could offer the blacks something worthwhile.

TRANSVALER on French Election

In its editorial on page 14, the paper says whether or not South Africa will benefit eventually from the results of the French election is not yet clear, but nevertheless the outcome is good news for this country. Good news, because the Socialists who for the past few years have attacked South Africa with so much hatred and venom have been voted out of office. "They were the ones who took the lead in all kinds of boycotts and sanctions," the paper says. The conservative coalition which took power on Sunday will have to try to get along with the political albatross of a socialist president, it says. "But nevertheless, one can expect that the conservative alliance will scale down the actions against South Africa. That they see events in this country in a totally different light as the socialists is no secret."

Windhoek Unemployment

On page 3, the Windhoek *DIE REPUBLIKEIN* in Afrikaans of 17 March reports that Windhoek City Councillor C.J. du Preez has expressed concern at the threat posed by the influx of unemployed persons in the capital. He said the threat started after the lifting of influx control, and the matter should be referred to the National Assembly and the Cabinet. He was opposed by Councillor Vic Verster, who said discussion of the issue in the assembly would not solve it. " 'An urbanization strategy has to be worked out, because the unemployment situation is very serious.' "

REPUBLIKEIN on SWAPO Policy

In its editorial on page 4 the paper says the attitude of the territory's National Party, SWA-NP, as recently announced, on Proclamation AG8, was both pleasing and discouraging. "It was pleasing because the party explicitly declared that the hated proclamation can be changed for the better. Also that SWA-NP would go out of its way to accommodate views expressed in the National Assembly." The paper also welcomes the fact that the party has said the minimum guarantees the party will ask for the protection of minorities would be more reasonable. But the paper is discouraged by the SWA-NP claim that it has always been in favor of changing the proclamation and that the party now admits that it used the proclamation as a weapon against the central government.

Campaign for Nonracial Education

"A campaign for the opening of schools to all races and the abolition of apartheid legislation blocking 'the vision of a non-racial and democratic education system' will be launched tomorrow by Education for an Aware South Africa (EDASA)," Cape Town *CAPE TIMES* in English on 20 March reports on page 3. The group plans to stage pickets, collect signatures on petitions and distribute pamphlets.

CAPE TIMES on Tricameral System

"The unwieldy working of the tricameral constitution have come under fire this week in two of the three ethnic chambers," the paper says in an editorial on page 10. Labor Party leader Allan Hendrickse criticized Constitutional Development and Planning Minister Heunis' absence at a debate and Indian MP's in the House of Delegates have moved for joint debates on bills rather than having each bill considered separately. However, "these frustrations are inevitable in the complicated system Nationalists devised to keep power in white hands while giving the new coloured and Indian chambers a share of responsibility but not a share of real power." As the House of Assembly is the real power base, "Nationalist ministers will inevitably spend most of their time there, and if other MPs feel they are less important, this is only a reflection of the reality laid down in the tricameral constitution. It should also have come as no surprise that the government turned down a suggestion for joint debates. This would mean joint sittings taking decisions, which is expressly fobidden by the constitution."

Heunis Clarifies Absence

Also on page 10, the paper reports that "the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, has pointed out that he was present for a portion of the debate in the House of Representatives on Monday," although the *CAPE TIMES* had stated otherwise in its editorial in the 19 March issue. Heunis said he was present when the motion was introduced but was absent for the remainder of the debate and so was unable to reply to it.

MP's To Get Raise

Brian Stuart reports on pages 1 and 2 of Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 21 March that "members of Parliament of all three Houses and the President's Council will get pay rises of 10 percent from April 1, in line with the increases to be given to other State employees." State President P.W. Botha, however, "has said he will not accept any raise in his salary and allowances this year."

Ending Bread Subsidy Opposed

"The South African Agricultural Union yesterday expressed opposition to any plans to abolish totally the subsidy on bread," the paper reports on page 3. The union agreed that the subsidy should be lowered, but called on the government to discard its plan to phase it out completely.

Nel on Parliament's Role

"The fact that the Government was negotiating with black political leaders outside Parliament did not negate the role of Parliament, the deputy minister of information, Mr Louis Nel, told the American Chamber of Commerce yesterday," the paper reports on page 12. Nel said that former Progressive Federal Party (PFP) leader Frederik van Zyl's Slabbert's statement that Parliament could not bring about constitutional reform showed " 'complete ignorance, not only of the role of Parliament, but also of the road of reform if it is to be constitutional.' " Nel also said "the Government's commitment to reform had to materialise into reality or it would hold 'no promise or hope.' "

1,000 Change Race Group

"More than 1,000 people officially changed colour last year," Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 21 March reports on page 4. "They were reclassified from one race group to another by the stroke of a government pen."

Debate on 'Own Affairs'

"The only way to abolish apartheid in South Africa was to scrap the present racially based constitution," PFP MP Nic Olivier told the House of Assembly, the paper reports on page 4. Olivier said the concept of "own affairs" "meant nothing but the maintenance of apartheid." Olivier's argument was echoed by another PFP MP, Tian Van der Merwe, who said " 'in the final instance, "own affairs" is a political stupidity and not only a practical absurdity.' " However, a Conservative Party MP "attacked the constitution on the grounds that the 'own affairs' concept deprived the whites of the freedom granted to blacks in their separate homelands." In defending the constitution, National Party MP Helgard van Rensburg said the tricameral system was an extension of democracy. He added that "the PFP's proposal was not acceptable to the majority of white voters, while the CP's policy had to be rejected as 'blatant white domination.' " Also participating in the debate, Minister Chris Heunis said "it would be foolish to ignore the existence of groups in South Africa, and it was "fiction to contemplate South Africa becoming a democracy in which all people participated in a single political structure."

STAR on UK Conference

An editorial on page 12 discusses the upcoming conference in Great Britain on the country's future which will be attended by the United Democratic Front (UDF), the Azanian People's Organization, Inkatha, and Frederik van Zyl Slabbert and Alex Borraine and to which the ANC, the National Party, and the Pan-Africanist Congress have been invited. Although "South Africans of different persuasions are finally going to talk to each other," "the odd bit is that all this will be happening in the UK." Still, "South Africans should be grateful that the Brits are getting their spokesmen together — even if it seems an awfully roundabout way of doing things."

Falling Expenditure, Employment in Mines

Sven Lunsche reports on page 14 that "the fluctuating gold price makes capital expenditure and employment projections on gold over the next five years difficult to predict, says Mr Henry

Kenney, senior economist of the Chamber of Mines." Capital expenditure on mines "is projected to rise steeply by 22 percent to R2.3 billion this year" but is likely to rise hardly at all in the 2 years after that. In 1989, it is expected to fall to R2.1 billion, a decline of 14.4 percent over the 1988 figure. "At the same time the number of additional jobs on the gold mines is not expected to go up by very much. The total of unskilled workers is expected to start declining from 1988 onwards, a trend which will be repeated for skilled workers in the following years."

'Bleak Picture' of Economy

"SA cannot afford a boom, said Mr Tony Norton, president of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, while addressing a client meeting at Credit Guarantee last night," Gareth Costa reports on the same page. Norton "went on to paint a bleak picture of the economic predicament that SA is in. He said there had been a steady decline in economic growth from six percent down to two percent over the last few years. The upturns in the economy were getting shorter and the downturns longer and there was a three precent growth in the black population an area of high expectations." Norton said the government was looking to improve the economy by deregulation, privatization, "and more stringent monetary and fiscal strategies and these were all on the agenda, but the pace was lacking and time was running out." Norton added that the solution to the country's capital problem was exports.

Black Education Situation

"Black schools closed yesterday for end-of-term holidays amid widespread boycotts, stayaways and the suspension of classes affecting more than 80,000 pupils in more than 100 schools. The government has just over a week to meet pupils' demands before the major education conference, convened by the National Education Crisis Committee, takes place at the end of the month," Thelma Tuch reports on pages 1 and 2 of Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 20 March. Deputy Education Minister Sam de Beer met the committee recently to discuss how the government had addressed the demands for the abolition of school fees, the provision of free books and stationery, repair of damaged schools, postponement of exams, and the establishment of student representative councils. "He said government was firmly committed to a programme aimed at equal opportunity for all and open channels of communication. However, he reiterated that the remaining demands for the unbanning of the Congress of South African Students (COSAS), the release of detained pupils and teachers and the withdrawal of the SADF from the townships were issues which could only be dealt with by the Ministry of Law and Order."

Cooper Passport Request Rejected

Peter Wallington reports on page 3 that Saths Cooper, president of the Azanian People's Organization, has said that his request for a passport to attend the conference on South Africa to be held in Great Britain had been rejected by the Department of Home Affairs. Cooper could not give any reason for the rejection.

Objection to Bill

"Grave fears have been raised in trade union and civil rights circles over proposed legislation to grant President P.W. Botha vast discretionary powers to 'undermine' trade unions and scrap workers' rights and benefits. Concern reached a peak yesterday as groups opposing the Temporary Removal of the Restriction on Economic Activities Bill learned that today was the deadline for submission of representations to the parliamentary standing committee on Home Affairs which is considering the legislation," the paper reports on page 3. Black Sash President Mary Burton appealed for an extension to the deadline and said the proposed law could " 'create opportunities for tremendous exploitation,' " while the Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU) "sent an urgent telex to Cape Town today to detail its objections" COSATU believes the bill will allow "the rights and protection workers have won over the years to be whittled away in the name of promoting small business."

Retail Sales Hit 5-Year Low

"Retail sales for December last year hit a five-year low, according to the latest Central Statistical Services release," the paper says on page 4. "The most noticeable drops in sales were a 16.1 percent fall in the sports and entertainment requisites category; 9.5 percent down in the jewellery trade; 8.7 percent down in book stores and stationers and 8.4 percent down in clothing, footwear and textiles."

Police Warning Criticized

"Businessmen in the suburbs adjoining Alexandra township on the northern fringe of Johannesburg have every reason to be riled by the open-ended police warning to motorists to stay out of the area," the paper says in another editorial on the same page. The warning is "damaging to their trade, particularly at a time when every cent of turnover is needed to maintain cashflows and solvency." "It is not the public who should be kept out of the affected areas, but the gangs of youths who are attacking people and destroying vehicles," but "police patrols appear to be more assiduous at apprehending pass-law offenders than protecting people and property." "Perhaps manpower and vehicles could be diverted from their political duties to fulfill their traditional functions."

Academic on Black Revolution

In an article on the same page, Stanley Uys says "for almost 30 years a vigorous debate has been taking place on whether a black revolution is possible in SA. The verdict of most academics is that it is not possible — at least not in the classic sense of an armed seizure of power." According to David Welsh, a professor of Southern Africa Studies at the University of Cape Town, " 'it is extremely difficult to overthrow a modern industrial state with its massive powers of coercion,' " particularly since " 'many black areas have been created to facilitate the movement of security forces.' " However, Welsh believes " 'white hegemony is unlikely to survive intact: violence has a sapping, haemorrhaging effect on the white power structure.' " " 'Possibly the best one can hope for is that after a period of endemic violence, exhaustion, deadlock and paralysis will set in and the two sides will try negotiation. This, of course, presupposes a rationality on both sides.' " Michael Spicer, public affairs adviser to Anglo American Chairman Gavin Relly sees " 'the black struggle' " as a " 'long drawn-out process in which polarisation of points of view will intensify, moderates will lose confidence, emigration will increase and the economy will unwind in a degenerative process.' " According to Sempie Terblanche, a professor of economics at the University of Stellenbosch, " 'apartheid will have to be dismantled systematically over a decade or two, and at the same time new structures will have to be put in its place.' " " 'The economy will have to be restructured so that civilised standards are not destroyed." Allan Boesak believes in a Lebanon-like situation where " 'the violence on both sides will become quite uncontrollable.' " There is hope for the country, however, in the churches working for reconciliation, but even more so in " 'organisations like the UDF, where whites and blacks work together with the same commitment and taking the same risks. There is also hope in the growing realisation among young blacks not only that they are helping to bring about great changes, but that they must also hold themselves responsible for the consequences of those changes.' " Uys concludes the article by discussing the ANC's strategy, which he sees as making the townships increasingly ungovernable and gradually grinding "the white rulers and their economy down until the power structure collapses." However, it is extremely doubtful that "SA's economy, its constitutional and political systems — and its nerves — could withstand this kind of punishment" for the 10 or 20 years Terblanche suggests. "Somebody must start talking to somebody else long before then."

ANC Executive Leader's Burial

"SA Communist Party Chairman Moses Mncane Mabhida is to be buried in South Africa next weekend — the government has surprisingly agreed to allow his body be sent back from Maputo, say family lawyers," Johannesburg *CITY PRESS* in English on 23 March reports on the front page. Mabhida will be buried in Slangspruit, just a few kilometres from his birthplace, Stone Ngadi. The United Democratic Front, the Congress of South African Trade Unions and other similar organizations were to form a committee for the funeral. Mabhida is the first ANC executive member to be buried in South Africa since Chief Albert Luthuli.

Play's Cast Attacked

Also on the front page, the paper reports that the "the cast of Mbongeni Ngema's award-winning stage play Asinamali ["We have no money"] escaped death narrowly on Tuesday night when a mob stormed Hammersdale's Glazer Hall — killing popular Durban socialist Jeff Shongwe." "Cars with KwaZulu Government ZG number-plates were seen outside the hall. The cast were accused of sowing confusion in Durban with Asinamali." The paper says cast members were warned not to stage the play, and subsequently the mob stormed to hall looking for Ngema and carried out the brutal attack.

Education Crisis Meeting

"A ban on next weekend's Soweto Parents' Crisis Committee [SPCC] meeting in Durban could bring an end to black schooling for this year," warned South African Council of Churches General Secretary Beyers Naude, the paper reports on the same page. If negotiations between the SPCC and the government were unsuccessful, " 'there was a real possiblity of the closing down of all black education in South Africa.' "

Shanty Town To Be Bulldozed

On page 3, the paper reports that "Umbulu's Malukazi — scene of the recent Zulu-Pondo violence which left more than 100 people dead and 20,000 homeless — is being bulldozed to make way for the expansion of nearby Umlazi." Residents will be asked to move out next week. The number of people to be moved is estimated at 10,000.

Resistance in Rural Areas

Khulu Sibiya writes on page 4 that "confrontation between cops and youths — common in almost all urban areas in the past two years — has now dramatically shifted to the rural areas." This has taken the government by surprise. This has affected black laborers and farmers who have no access to media and "are far from being politicized." "And the intense political conflict, which the Government homeland leaders thought they could contain — probably for a life-time — has now emerged from unsuspecting quarters. For people in rural areas — who have always been the last to rise against the masters — are now fighting back." According to a report by the Transvaal Rural Action Committee, "poverty and unemployment are the root causes of dissent among rural people. Forced removals and rent evictions are happening all over the country, especially in small towns." Extraparliamentary organizations point out that "the uprisings in the rural areas won't die down until the people's grievances are resolved."

Upgrade Langa

In an article on page 5, Mono Badela reports on a report by Planact — "a group concerned with alternative approaches to development" — discussing the possible removal of residents of Langa, in the Eastern Cape, to KwaNobuhle, which is being resisted by residents. The report acknowledges the poor conditions in Langa but says there were good reasons for upgrading the area because the preconditions for a successful upgrade existed, namely: "the existence of a strong and democratic community organization in the area," and the fact that it is a stable community and people have lived in the area for many years. The report says people have an interest in improving the community because it is close to places of employment and therefore transportation costs are low, few houses would be moved to make room for upgrading, the number of people per dwelling unit is lower than in other townships, the stable ground conditions of the site and the fact that it is well-drained, the township can receive sewers which will work entirely by gravity, and the town has a well-defined stormwater system to provide adequate drainage. Upgrading was recommended based on the following principles: If residents were to pay for the upgrading, payments should be kept as low as possible, and "the existing system of street committees, area committees and the Langa coordinating committee be recognized as the most important decision-making body in the upgrading process." All decisions on upgrading should be discussed by these bodies.

Toyota Advances Blacks

According to Toyota Managing Director Colin Adcock, significant numbers of black workers of his company are advancing into supervisory posts, the paper reports on page 8. However, he said the company had no special program for advancing blacks " 'because we do not define our black employees in the traditional way but include in this group all people who are suffering for any social, economic or political reason.' " The company wanted to promote blacks even before the end of job reservation. Today welders in the factory are predominantly black and visiting Japanese engineers praise their work. There are nearly 200 black supervisors of foreman, called "indunas", in the plan who " 'are an essential link in our managment structure' " and there are many blacks working in responsible positions side-by-side with other members of the community. " 'You just cannot produce quality in a factor if the workforce is divided and emotionally stressed,' " he said.

U.S. Aid to Companies

"A committee of black businessmen has been formed to draw up an action plan to enable American companies in South Africa to make a 'meaningful contribution' to black business," the paper reports on the same page. The committee will report in two months to leading black businessmen and representatives of U.S. companies. At a meeting at Witwatersrand University, delegates "identified the problem and frustrations of black entrepreneurs as insufficient finance and stifling legislation. Many delegates felt that while corporate policy dictated that American companies do business with black businesses, this seldom happened in practice."

Editorial on Violence

Between the Sharpeville killings in 1960 and the Langa killings in 1985 "South Africa had learnt nothing. Between 1960 and now, South Africa has learnt nothing. Protest is met with the might of the gun and so the spiral of violence winds higher and higher," says a page 4 editorial. In 1960 people were protesting against the pass laws and today, 26 years later, blacks still carry passes. Though the state president said the passes would be abolished by 1 July, people are still getting prosecuted under the pass laws. "This is just one example of how superciliously black grievances are being treated." Is it any wonder blacks get angrier by the day, the editorial says, "and this anger is fueled by the violent reaction of the Government."

Patterns of Violence

In his "Focus" column on the same page, Sam Mabe calls the Sharpeville shootings 26 years ago a "watershed in South Africa's history of resistance." He quotes a British political analyst, Colin Legum, as saying at the time that the "unrest in South Africa was not in itself a revolution, but a forerunner of greater conflict to come, 'perhaps like the abortive Russian revolution of 1905.' " After the state of emergency was lifted on 30 August 1960, Mabe says, most of its provisions such as the right to search people or their homes without a warrant, bannings, and detention without trial were incorporated into the country's security legislation. "This has meant that South Africa has been under a virtual state of emergency for the past 26 years. But that state of emergency has done very little, if anything, to dampen the militancy of blacks." Whereas in Sharpeville in 1960 and Soweto in 1976 the first people to die were shot by the police, in September 1984 the first victims were killed by angry mobs. "There has been a marked shift in the pattern of violence. Could this mean that Mr Legum's predictions are true?"

Black Issues Must Be Addressed

"It is actually quite strange that very little has changed since that first traumatic episode at Sharpeville," "Joe's Burg" column says on page 5. "One would have thought that history is recorded so that future generations can learn from the mistakes made by their predecessors. Not in this country. We are, it seems, determined to re-write history all the way." Commenting on the whites' "horror" over the possible release of Mandela and the government's "no-win" situation, the column says Mandela is not the only reason why people are up and fighting and dying. "There are other issues that need to be addressed simultaneously" — the education crisis, withdrawal of the SADF from the townships, basic socio-economic needs, housing, scrapping of influx control and the population regristration act. "All indications of apartheid must go." "Only then can one start talking power-sharing. We must admit that sharing cannot be done equitably in an unequal situation." That is the bottom line. "If we hope to see a peaceful 1986, that is what must be done, not because the Government wishes it to be done, but because it must be done."

National Forum for Blacks

The Johannesburg office of the National Forum has released a statement confirming that the organization is for blacks only and that its policy is against association with whites, a page 10 article says. The statement refutes claims that white organizations have been invited to the third National Forum to be held in Durban on 28 and 29 March. "The forum bases its approach to the struggle on the reality of racial oppression and economic exploitation in this country."

Two Teenagers Killed

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 22 March reports on page 2 that two 14-year-olds were killed by police in Alexandra on Thursday. "Police had earlier said that two men were shot dead by police in a car chase in the township after they and a gang of youths had forced a motorist from his car." The "men" turned out to be the two children. One lady said a policeman had appeared upset and apologised for having shot " 'such a young boy.' "

Church Opposes Apartheid

"The Apostolic Faith Mission (AFM) of Africa has issued a statement condemning apartheid in an effort to dispel the widely-held view that it is a 'pro-apartheid' church," the paper reports on page 5. "This is an unusual step for the AFM of Africa, which does not normally make a public stand on matters related to politics." A church leader said it was necessary because " 'the church has been marked as a pro-apartheid church, which is not true.' "

House Sales to Indians, Blacks

On page 7 the paper reports that several Indian families and at least one black businessman have bought houses in Johannesburg's "prestige" northern suburbs and adjacent Sandton, and "are living there without fuss or bother." One Johannesburg estate agent was quoted as saying that the " 'risk of being evicted after buying a house is decreasing every day.' " He called the sale of property to Indians a " 'most exciting area' " which had many "legal, social, political and economic implications." He also said a wealthy black businessman was living in the northern suburbs with his "white mistress." Although the sale had actually been made in the woman's name, the documents were so worded that if the relationship ended, proceeds from the sale of the house would revert to the businessman.

Detainees Freed

Johannesburg *THE WEEKLY MAIL* in English on 21-27 March [as published] carries on page 1 a report on the Bloemfontein Appeal Court's ruling releasing people in "preventive detention" if the reasons for the detention were not specified. The Rand

Supreme Court followed suit, releasing three people for the same reason. The Bloemfontein judge reasoned that "the legislature intended that the detainee should have a fair opportunity to deal with the Minister's reasons for detaining him and persuade him that the issuing of the order was unjustified." Failure to give him reasons would not give him a fair opportunity to make representations. To many of the appellants, the judge's ruling was "a qualified victory. Most have completed long stints in detention and have since been released."

Children Detained

On page 2, Pat Sidley reports that "at least 35 children — some as young as 11 — have been detained in the Karoo town of Aliwal North. They are being held under Section 50 of the Internal Security Act, which allows police to detain them for 14 days without charging them. And residents claim that water to the township — which has a system of communal taps only — has been deliberately cut off for the past two days." Representatives of the Aliwal North Youth Congress told the paper they believed the detentions were made to prevent the children attending a funeral of a young woman who was allegedly killed by police. They also said the water was often cut off when police were taking action.

Damages Awarded

"A northern Namibian shopkeeper, Severinus Sikeketa, who was given a record R30,000 in damages from Law and Order Minister Louis le Grange for wrongful arrest and maltreatment in detention, claims he was kept in a tiny cell and fed a starvation diet," Kevin Toolis reports on the same page. Le Grange agreed to pay the damages shortly before the case was heard by the Windhoek Supreme Court. Sikeketa said conditions were " 'atrocious' ", with restrictions on food and water and primitive toilet facilities. He was kept in solitary confinement and was not allowed to speak to anyone but his interrogators.

Fighting in the Mines

According to Kent McNamara, a research official from the Chamber of Mines, "the migrant labour system is at the root of faction fighting in South Africa's gold mines," the paper reports on page 3. In his doctoral thesis, McNamara found that other factors for conflict included "congestion in the mine hostels, competition for women and liquor supplies, and struggles over wages and jobs in the context of widespread unemployment and drought in rural areas." He disproved the "conventional white view that faction fights showed blacks were inherently savage, inferior, and incapable of settling their differences." Anglo American and the National Union of Mineworkers have set up a commission of inquiry to examine causes of faction fighting in Anglo's mines. McNamara said that there were "certain social divisions" which were regionally based because miners were recruited from different areas, and all the miner has are "friendship relations — the people from his home region who live in his compound — which he is unlikely to repudiate. The point is that interests remain regionally based — as opposed to ethnically based. Communal and political tensions become expressed in terms of this social structure and hence one has faction fights." He said a lot of the problems result from overcrowding and noted that the hostels were " 'whirlpools of shifting communities' " rather than settled working class communities because of the constant turnover.

Calls for Mixed Schools

According to a report by Moira Levy from Cape Town on page 5, "a quiet revolution is slowly taking place in white education in the Western Cape. Parents and teachers at a growing number of schools are adding their voices to a call to open schools to pupils of all races." This followed a decision by parents at a prestigious Cape Town school to open it to all regardless of race. Teachers have also circulated a petition among pupils demanding " 'open schools in an open society.' "

Responsible Civil Disobedience

Carmel Rickard reports on page 6 of *THE WEEKLY MAIL* on Sheena Duncan's address opening the national Black Sash conference last week, citing Duncan as saying that "responsible civil disobedience was the last hope for avoiding bloody confrontation." Duncan said that there was no signs the government planned to end race classification and that government would maintain power " 'through the barrel of a gun' " as long as apartheid remained. " 'If this power has to be taken from them through the barrel of a gun, then we are all going to live through a time of unimaginable terror.' " She said that the only " 'one small hope' " she could see was " 'those political movements and black communities who have withdrawn and are withdrawing their cooperation with the apartheid state.' " She said civil disobedience was the last resort, but that in South Africa " 'the law does not offer redress for the many gross violations of civil liberties and human rights which are part of the laws of this country.' " Referring to the nonviolent seizure of the government in the Philippines, she said: " 'We could still do it like that. We could stop the tanks with our bare hands. We could find that common national will. If we do not do so, we are going to enter into a very long and very terrible time of violence conflict.' "

ANC's Approach

Howard Barrel discusses on page 12 the ANC's current strategy as it attempts to "build and consolidate under its aegis an alliance" and also tries to "isolate thoroughly the diehard supporters of apartheid." From recent discussions with the organization, it appears the ANC "envisages a two-tier alignment around itself based on a distinction between 'revolutionary forces' and 'forces for change.' " The revolutionary forces include itself and the South African Communist Party as well as "a large number of other organisations inside the country." The "forces for change" are largely white groups who are beginning to overcome the classic South African liberal dilemma: "They denounce apartheid but attempt to steer a middle course between that denunication and direct identification with, or involvement in, mass mobilisation against apartheid." The "forces for change" must be "weaned away from any residual confidence in the current government and state system, and be drawn into as close an alliance as possible with the primary grouping, the 'revolutionary forces.' " They see the resignation of former PFP leader Frederick van Zyl Slabbert as an indication that he may be overcoming the "liberal dilemma," which may be why he has been so criticized by liberal commentators. The ANC also feels the South African intelligence officials may be trying to tie up the leadership with an endless stream of talks and therefore is considering establishing a secretariat for the purpose of talks.

Budget Examined

On page 12, Pat Sidley says that "more widespread hunger, malnutrition and starvation will follow the government's cutback of R170-million in subsidies on basic foods." A recent report on the relationship between hunger and unrest noted that "a decline in bread consumption took place in several areas hit by unrest — before the introduction of consumer boycotts. 'We wonder whether hunger itself acted as part of the trigger mechanism setting off the distrubances,' the submission said." Jean le May cites on page 13 statements that the new budget is a "rich's man budget" and that it will lead to more conflict, which is understandable considering the "cut in the bread subsidy, the refusal to lift GST on all food, and the failure to reach parity in schooling, pensions and social services for blacks." He notes that black housing is a particularly serious problem, citing figures that there is a shortage of at least 390,790 homes with 16,613 provided by the state. Furthermore, Helen Suzman replied to a statement that Soweto's population was just under a million " 'you can double that.' Her comment arouses the interesting speculation that government planners are as bad at arithmetic as they are insensitive to the makings of even worse crises inherent in the budget provisions."

ZIMBABWE

Nkomo, ZANU-PF Ministers Address Rally

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[Text] The Zimbabwean opposition leader, Dr Joshua Nkomo, of the ZAPU party, has urged his followers to help the ZANU-PF government to bring about peace in the troubled Matabeleland Province. Dr Nkomo was addressing a rally in the mining area of Kezi, 80km south of the Matabeleland capital of Bulawayo. The gathering was also attended by two senior members of ZANU-PF, the home affairs minister, Mr Enos Nkala, and the state security minister, Mr Emmerson Munangagwa. Observers say the rally symbolizes Dr Nkomo's commitment towards forming an alliance with the ruling party.

Dr Nkomo described the rally as an historical turning point to bring about peace, prosperity, and progress to Zimbabwe. He urged the people of Matabeleland to report dissidents operating in the province to the authorities.

Mr Nkala told the rally that he had come to Kezi to seek peace among the different tribes of the nation. Mr Nkala was heckled by a number of people in the crowd when he challenged them to deny that they had ever seen dissidents. The hecklers told the minister that soldiers were beating them. He replied that it was the dissidents in Matabeleland who wanted to start conflict in Zimbabwe. Mr Nkala said the soldiers would be removed only when there were no more dissidents.

Matabeleland is the stonghold of the ZAPU party, which draws most of its support from the minority Ndebele tribe. The party holds all 15 parliamentary seats in the province.